

# Havant's Inns, Posting Houses and Public Houses



## THE OLD HOUSE AT HOME

Steve Jones

023 9247 3326

[steve195598@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:steve195598@yahoo.co.uk)

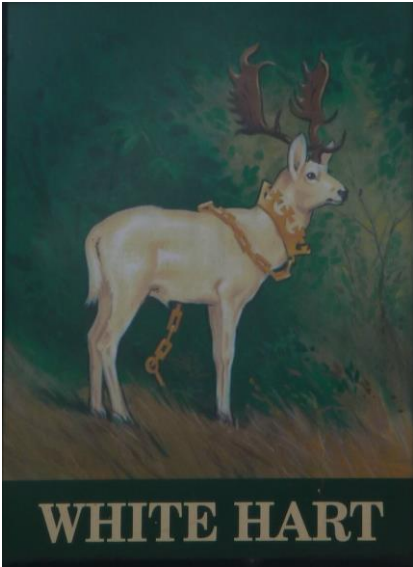
Havant Borough History Booklet No. 29

May 2015

**THE**  
**SPRING**  
ARTS & HERITAGE CENTRE

£6





# PREFACE

## Inns and Public Houses, An Early History and General View

In Saxon times *Tabernae*, wooden huts or booths, were built at the roadside and advertised themselves by means of a long pole. An evergreen bush was attached if wine was available together with ale. This custom may have originated from the Romans. Ale and mead were probably brewed and sold on the premises.

Monasteries were established after the arrival of Christianity and these were required to provide for travellers with the building of hospices close to the abbey, monastery or where travellers came together. From these establishments, inns and hotels have their roots. During the eighth century houses were set up by the public to provide food and refreshment and were known as Taverns, derived from the Latin *taberna*. They were more upmarket than local drinking places which became to be known as alehouses.

By the sixteenth century taverns and alehouses were recognised in law by the way they were licensed and obligations on the licensee. However there were regional variations. In the north and parts of the west, most premises were called inns and their licensees called innkeepers. After Charles II came to the throne alehouses gradually became known as public houses and the less successful Inns and taverns went into decline.

In common with other tradesmen of the time, inns, taverns and alehouses advertised their business with a sign hanging outside. From the fourteenth century inns and taverns hung out a pictorial sign by which they could be identified in this illiterate age. In the sixteenth century many alehouses followed suit. The tradition has continued for licensed premises, since they were exempt from the Georgian restrictions on hanging signs. The earliest signs used motifs drawn from heraldry but by Georgian times there was greater variety.

By the mid-eighteenth century larger alehouses were becoming common, while inns beside the major highways grew in grandeur and new ones sprang up in this coaching era. The term alehouse was gradually replaced by public house during the eighteenth century. Taverns meanwhile were being replaced by or converted into coffee houses as social centres for the wealthier classes. The first English hotel was built in Exeter in 1768, but the term was rare before 1800.

From the late eighteenth century brewers were beginning to acquire licensed premises as an outlet for their products, thus guaranteeing reasonable sales of beer. This came to a head in the mid nineteenth century due to the 1830 Beerhouse Act, brought in to combat the rise in spirit drinking, which resulted in a growth of the

number of beerhouses opening and brewing their own wares. This and the 1869 Wine and Beerhouse Act, which brought stricter control of licences, caused brewers to revise their policies. After the date of the last Act the majority of drinking establishments, be it beerhouses, taverns or inns, were then affiliated to, or for the most part, owned by the brewing companies themselves.

With the coming of the railways a number of hotels were built close to railway stations. Some of the grandest were beside the great London terminuses, such as the Midland Grand Hotel (1874) at St Pancras Station, Euston Road, designed by Sir George Gilbert Scott (1811–1878) in the Gothic Revival style. Coaching inns declined, though some were able to mutate into public houses or hotels, which flourished in the later twentieth century along with the motor car, one fine local example being the Bear Hotel in Havant and to some extent the Heroes or Waterloo Hotel in Waterlooville

Much has been made of what was an inn, tavern or an old fashioned alehouse. Most at the end of the day served the local population or passer-by with alcoholic refreshment and certainly by the mid-nineteenth century the exact meaning of each establishment came under the general heading of a public house. Many of course offered a meal or a bed for the night or acted as a coaching stop or post-house which set them apart from their rivals. It is too easy to confuse the difference between what was an inn or a more upmarket beerhouse because many offered the same services. Bedhampton, for example, had the Belmont Tavern but this in the true meaning of the word was no more than a mid-nineteenth century beerhouse offering stabling and probably a meal for its customers.

*Beer! Happy produce of our isle,  
Can sinewy strength impart,  
And, wearied with fatigue and toil,  
Can cheer each manly heart*

Rev. J. Townley

*When you have lost your inns, drown your empty selves,  
for you have lost the last of England.*

Hilaire Belloc

*The English beer is best in all Europe...  
it was necessary to drink two or three pots of beer during our parley;  
for no kind of business is transacted in England without  
the intervention of pots of beer.*

Jarevin de Rochefort, 1672

# THE INNS OF HAVANT

Steve Jones

There have probably been some form of inn, tavern, or alehouse, situated within the town of Havant for centuries, certainly recorded are the existence of inns in the town in the early 17th century but it is probably true that one form of hostelry or another stood in Havant from the Middle Ages. It is also recorded that malt, the chief ingredient of beer, was being produced in Brockhampton from at least 1409/10.

As early as 1627 Robert Page is recorded as a victualler in the town and in 1630 Clement Hannom is recorded as an innkeeper of Havant. In the Hearth Tax Returns of 1664/5 the house occupied by John Drewett, consisting of nine hearths, was almost certainly an inn. By 1673/74 the same premises were occupied by Clement Kent, recorded as a Victualler in his probate record of 1684. In a probate record of 1674 Drewett is recorded as an innholder. As well as being an innkeeper Drewett was also a merchant – he kept and sold wine and beer, the latter being brewed on the premises, and it appeared he also acted as a local carrier. By 1673, Drewett was listed at another property in the town with four hearths. Both these premises were situated in East Street – one certainly being the Black Bear, the other being probably the Sun. As well as these two inns there was almost certainly at this date another inn or alehouse at Langstone, at the site of the Royal Oak, and possibly other inns within the town of Havant itself.

It is unclear exactly how many inns or alehouses there were in Havant throughout the seventeenth and eighteenth centuries; early directories record many and certainly many are recorded in the Manorial Court Rolls for the town. In 1686 there were said to be 31 guest beds in Havant with stabling for 36 horses. The Court Rolls are a useful record of what life was like prior to the nineteenth century when records become a little clearer. Early inns recorded in the Court Rolls include the Sun Inn, East Street, White Bear Inn (formerly the White Horse), East Street, the Black Bear Inn, East Street, the Bell Inn, the Anchor Inn, West Street and the Olde Starr in West Street as well as the Royal Oak which stood on the eastern entrance of the town.

In 1729, regulations (The Brewster Sessions) were introduced whereby magistrates annually issued or renewed licences to sell beer, thus limiting and regulating the amount of unlicensed alehouses. This was kept in check until the Beerhouse Act of 1830 when this allowed a householder, as assessed to the poor rate, to retail beer from his own house, on payment of two guineas. The purpose of this Act was to discourage the sale of spirits. Prior to these acts legislation was laid down limiting the number of alehouses or taverns within towns such as Havant.

The Manorial Court, known as the Court Leet, which dealt with petty offences such as common nuisances, highway disrepair and breaking the Assize of Bread and Ale etc. records in Havant c.1650:

*We present that John Burton, Thomas Palmer, John Hammond, John Russell, John Kempe, Arthur Jenkinson, Johanna Monck widow, and William Reed commonly sell drink by unlawful measures against the form of the Statute, each fined 12d.*

The authorities took the selling of beer and ale by the right measures seriously, as at another sitting of the Court Leet for the town; Mathew Streete, John Upham, John Russell, and Richard Stempe were fined 4d each for selling beer by unlawful measures. At another sitting, probably about 1750, we have a more different record – *'We present Thomas Cook, Richard Browman, Francis Higgins as persons unqualified for selling beer being Papists and not having licences.'* In 1769 it was decreed that:

*Any person or persons keeping a public house within the jurisdiction of the Leet shall be detected or have in his, her or their custody, any measure short of the standard measure of this Kingdom, such person or persons shall for each and every such measure forfeit and pay the sum of one shilling for each and every such measure to the coroner of the jurisdiction of this Leet, on his discovering the same.*

As far back as Magna Carta in 1215 it was even statuted that there should be standard measures of wine and ale, and as late as 1817 the manorial court appointed an 'Ale-taster' who tested the quality of ale and beer sold within the manor of Havant. He was responsible for ensuring that these commodities were sold to the proper weight and measure. This of course

was the forerunner of the Inspector of Weights and Measures.

In 1784 there were seven inns recorded in Havant, the White Hart, the Dolphin, the Black Bear Inn, the Bell, the Star, the Black Dog and the George, most in one form or another survived well into the twentieth century. A history of Portsmouth, written in 1809, states that:

*Havant is a neat, clean inland town, situated most pleasantly at the eastern extremity of Portsdown. It possesses several good inns, and has a tolerable trade, from its being a thoroughfare from Southampton, Winchester, and Portsmouth, to Chichester, Brighton and other parts of Sussex.*

Until his death in 1824, when his business was sold by auction, the Havant brewer, John Hammond, appeared to have the controlling monopoly on Havant inns through this period, owning among others the White Hart, the Dolphin, the Old Star (the Star) and the Royal Oak, Langstone.

By the time of the Beerhouse Act in 1830, brought in to combat the rise of spirit drinking, we get a clearer picture of the number of beerhouses, inns and taverns there were in the town. The Act certainly made it easier for small beerhouses to spring up around the town – some that were no more than one room selling their wares which were mostly brewed on the premises and it certainly meant that almost anyone could open up a public house without a Magistrates licence. The 1830 Beerhouse Act did not have too much of an effect on Havant, unlike larger towns such as Portsmouth. It is recognised that there were five better quality inns and public houses at this date, namely the George, the Dolphin, the Bear, the White Hart and the Black Dog and various smaller beerhouses of varying quality around the town probably brewing their own produce on the premises. Another Act, the Refreshment Houses Act of 1860, put the sale of wine on more or less the same footing as beer enabling the keeper of an inn or beerhouse to take out an excise licence for the sale of wine without a Justice's licence.

This all changed in 1869 when it was decreed that any new licence, be it beer, wine or spirits, could not be obtained without a Justice's licence. For Havant it meant that such beerhouses as the Old House at Home, the Perseverance, the Foresters Arms etc., were repeatedly turned down for spirit licences for one reason or another and it was very difficult for a

beerhouse to obtain a spirit licence. The Brewster Sessions still annually dealt with the renewing and issuing of licences, taking into consideration police reports and objections from various factions as an example of September 1897 testifies:

#### REPAIRS NEEDED

*The police objected to the renewal of the licence of the "Dolphin," West Street, Havant, on the ground that the premises generally were in a bad state of repair, and Superintendent Hack, of Havant Police, asked for an adjournment. – The landlord stated that the house belonged to Messrs Clarke & Son. Clarke supplied the beer and Brickwood & Co. the ale and spirits. – Admiral Field (Chairman of the Justices): "That is a curious case. It must be a doubly-tied house then." – In answer to further questions the landlord said that Brickwoods & Co. had the lease. – Admiral Field: Then they must be entered as the owners. The application was adjourned.*

*Hampshire Telegraph 11th November.1897*

Directories from the late eighteenth century and throughout the nineteenth century record most of the inns and beerhouses within the town and also give the names of the licensees of the premises; although it was not uncommon in some cases for inn or beerhouse holders to carry on a separate trade. This can be borne out by the census returns for 1841–1901 where many an innkeeper or beerhouse keeper is recorded as a shoemaker, carpenter, builder etc. Through the directories for Havant we get a good record of the number of inns, taverns or beerhouses there were in the town:-

1784	1793	1801	1830	1844	1852	1865	1878	1890
7	7	10	5*	15	17	17	18	18

It is probable that certain beerhouses are not recorded. The Parish Records and other records for Havant in the 1830s record at least six beerhouse/public house keepers who are not recognised to certain Inns/beerhouses. Put into perspective, the number of inns etc. selling beer is still quite large for a small town the size of Havant but if we look at Havant's larger neighbour Portsmouth for instance, in 1879 the figures were 75



brewers, 1,271 victuallers, 160 beerhouse keepers.

From the mid nineteenth century until the end of the Great War, as the local directories show, there were around eighteen public houses in the town of Havant (encompassing the four main roads). These ranged from the better quality establishments such as the Bear Hotel and the Dolphin through to others such as the Millers Arms in East Street and the Anchor in South Street, along with others of a similar type, that were probably no more than cheap beerhouses. Many would later of course become respectable public houses such as the Robin Hood, Homewell Lane, The Perseverance and the Foresters Arms, North Street and the Brown Jug in East Street. The ever helpful directories also record the names of beer retailers and beerhouse keepers that can not be traced to a certain beer house or inn; it is possible of course that they were connected to a house that has gone unrecorded, or more probably were early licensees to the many beerhouses that sprung up in the early to mid quarter of the nineteenth century. In September 1866 the Old House At Home, in South Street, was refused a spirit licence on the grounds that the chairman of the magistrates remarked that:

*There were now nine public houses and 13 beer houses in Havant, and although it was true that there was no licensed house in this particular street, the magistrates did not consider that another public house would prove of any advantage to Havant.*

It was not just the magistrates who did not wish to have more beer and spirit houses in the town as in an undated letter, c.1875, certain Havant inhabitants signed a petition against the intention of three beer retailers to apply for a spirit licence. They stated quite strongly that:

*In our opinion quite a sufficient number of licensed houses already exist. Two of the licensed houses will be in the North Street, the length of which is about three hundred yards and in which there are already two "Star" and the "George" licensed for the sale of spirits and the "Six Bells," the "Foresters" and the "Perseverance" having beer licences, also the "Millers Arms" now recently opened.<sup>1</sup>*

In 1897 it was calculated that in the Havant petty sessions district (Fareham to Havant – not including Portsmouth) there were: 31 alehouses, 37

beerhouses, 7 grocer's licences, a total of 77. The population of the district was 10,320, so that the number of persons to each licensed house was 136 to 1.

The beer drunk in the licensed premises throughout most of these years was without doubt brewed locally in the town itself. Most of the smaller beerhouses were brewing beer on their premises – the Cobden Arms, the Brown Jug, the Fountain, the Robin Hood and the Prince of Wales and probably others all had either brewhouses or malthouses attached to their premises where brewing was carried out. From the mid nineteenth century the two leading players of Havant brewing, the Clarke and Gloyne families were acquiring the majority of the inns and beerhouses in the town and closing the production of beer from these premises and supplying the inns with beer produced at their main breweries at Homewell and South Street. This was certainly the case until the bigger local brewers, Gales and Kinnell & Hartley, and national brewers took a hold on all of the public houses in the town at the end of the nineteenth and start of the twentieth century when first the Gloyne (1898) and secondly the Clarke (1903) brewing interests were sold off.

Into the twentieth century there were 19 public houses in Havant in the four main roads that make up the centre of the town. As trade declined, for one reason or another, and by the time the Second World War had started, the list had been reduced to 16, with the closure of the Anchor in South Street, the Fountain in West Street, and the Foresters Arms in North Street. After the war and through the 1950s and 1960s, and even to relatively late, other public houses started to close with another 6 disappearing, the Hearts of Oak, Dolphin, George, Speed the Plough, Brown Jug and Black Dog. As recently as 2010 Havant has lost another two public houses with the closure of the Cobden Arms in West Street and the Star in North Street.

Over the last forty years Havant has lost three of its more historical pubs, including the two hundred years old coaching inn, the Dolphin, which was demolished in 1958 to make way for a shopping arcade. The Dolphin was replaced with another public house bearing its name on Park Road South, though this has now disappeared. Another former coaching inn, the George,

has also closed, though the building remains. But perhaps the biggest loss to the town of Havant was the closure of the Black Dog (Courthouse) in West Street, which has been converted into apartments. The only good news for beer drinkers in Havant has been the opening of the Parchment Makers in Park Road North in 1997, in the building that formerly housed the local Tax and Social Security office.

Certainly over the last ten years there has been a noticeable decline in the use of the public houses, not just locally but nationally and this is reflected in the changing habits of the pubs themselves. With cheap alcohol from places like supermarkets and other outlets the use of public houses for drinking has markedly dropped, making it imperative for them to diversify into other activities to attract more customers. Figures show that nationally five public houses are closing on a daily basis, and it is predicted that this trend will rise due to the unsteady economy and ensuing recession that will follow. Havant has not escaped this trend; at the end of 2008 the Wheelwrights Arms on Emsworth Road had closed for financial reasons, although it is now thankfully re-opened. On a happier note the Prince of Wales public house in West Street, which was closed for about two months has re-opened but with a bleak outlook in the financial world it would not come as a surprise to see more local public houses close their doors.

With public houses closing down at an alarming rate in the current climate it is probably a good thing to look back nostalgically when it appeared that most street corners in any town in the land housed a pub. If certain figures are to be believed this may well have been the case; back in 1577 it is calculated that there was one inn to every 187 people and during the peak of the nineteenth century in 1831 alone an astonishing 30,000 beer houses opened. By 1891 there were 105,000 licensees – the current figure is half that and falling.

Where once the inns, taverns and public houses were the centre for the social, political and economical activities for the town, now most public houses to survive have had to attract customers with restaurants and modern activities such as quiz nights and karaoke nights – without these many cannot survive. Gone are the days when the inns of Havant played host

to the magistrates' court of the town, both the Black Dog and the Bear, and were also the venues for both the political affairs of the district as well as the economical activities of the town. The Bear Inn especially, hosted many auctions of local property and land of the area and like many Havant inns many a business deal was struck here.

## HAVANT DIRECTORY 1792-98

### MALTSTERS, BREWERS & INN-KEEPERS IN HAVANT

William Brown – Maltster	John Buckhurst – Maltster
John Budd – Maltster	Butler & Hammond – Brewers
Thomas Carter – Maltster	John Dennett – Royal Oak
Thomas Dix – Star	George Gorton – White Hart
William Gray – Dolphin	John Hammond – Black Dog
Joshua Joliffe – Maltster	Richard Puttnam – Maltster
Thomas Spearing – Maltster	Edward White – George & Dragon
Stephen Wise – Black Bear	

### COACHING INNS

The growth of coaching and its inns gathered pace at the start of the industrial revolution. Before this wheeled transport on the roads would have been agricultural wagons or carts moving merchandise. The movement of goods and people was essential to trade and commerce and at the same time improvements to roads was crucial. Most routes, even between major towns, were little more than dirt tracks which were rutted, pot-holed and liable to flood and collapse. The Hampshire Quarter Sessions in 1751 described the road between Havant and Emsworth as being '*ruinous and impassable*' consisting of a single track rutted lane.

The Turnpike Act of 1663 transferred responsibility for roads from parish councils to Turnpike Trusts. Tolls were charged to fund improvements and

over the next 150 years more than 1,100 separate Turnpike Trusts were set up, covering nearly all the main roads, while minor roads still relied on the local parishes. The road from Chichester to Portsmouth was established as Trust No. 10 by a local Act in 1762 with the charge of 1/- (5p) for a stagecoach of four or more horses, tollgates were set up at Chichester, Fishbourne, Nutbourne, Bedhampton, Cosham. Before the Turnpike the only regular traffic between Portsmouth and Chichester was the stage wagon, which carried both goods and passengers at an average speed of 2 mph taking all day to do the 18 mile journey. The boom in coaching was not seen until the early nineteenth century. Brighton for example had a skeleton service in 1757; by 1840 it was served by more than 40 coaches a day.

Because of its location coaching inns played an important part in the every day activity of a town such as Havant. Located on the south coast road from Brighton to Portsmouth it was an important stop for coaches working along the south coast. As well as this Havant was also a stopping off point for the wagons and coaches that plied their trade between London and Portsmouth.

Four inns in the town were major coaching stops, namely the George Inn in North Street, which was an early stop on the London to Portsmouth route; the Dolphin, West Street, a stop on the Brighton to Portsmouth route, as well as a later stop on the route to London; the Bear in East Street, with its good example of a coaching entrance, which catered both for the Brighton to Portsmouth route as well as a stopping off point for the London to Portsmouth run. Later the Black Dog acted as a stopping off point on the Portsmouth to Brighton route. (see Pigot & Co. advertisements for coaches from Havant). An earlier directory for the town for 1782 records two coaches stopping at Havant daily '*at about nine o'clock from Chichester to Portsmouth, and return same afternoon about four.*' A later directory for the town for 1793-98 records:

*Kemp's Chichester diligence passes through from The Swan Inn, Chichester, every morning at eight o'clock, to the Vine Inn, Oyster Street, Portsmouth, and returns from thence to Chichester the same evening.*

*Knight's Chichester caravan passes through this town to Portsmouth every day, and returns the same evening.*

*Gallick's Chichester stage wagon goes through this town to Portsmouth every Monday and Thursday, and returns every Tuesday and Friday.*

*Goddards Stage Waggon sets out from The George Inn (Havant) every Saturday at 12 o'clock, arrives at The George Inn (Southwark) Tuesday at 12 o'clock; sets out from thence on Wednesday at 12 o'clock and returns to Havant on Friday evening.*

By the early 19th century six-horse drawn stage coaches running on fixed routes and operating to timetables stopped daily at Havant. The most important was The Independent which ran from Portsmouth to London. It stopped at the Bear Inn, East Street every morning at 7.30 am and travelled to London via Emsworth, Chichester, Petworth, Godalming and Ripley. On the route from Portsmouth to Brighton ran The Defiance which called at both the Bear Inn and the Dolphin Inn every morning at nine on its way to Brighton. In the evenings it called at these premises at half past four on route to Portsmouth. By 1821 four coaches were making the return journey through Havant every weekday, two ran on Sunday.

Even with the turnpike there were continual complaints about the bad surface and narrowness of the road, particularly between Havant and Emsworth, where parts of the road were less than two coach widths, and special passing places had to be built. Despite the failings with the roads coaches became the safest and most reliable way to travel long distances within the country. For most of its history, coach travel was expensive and the preserve of the middle and upper classes. It was not until the early 19th century that coach travel became more affordable. With the gradual improvement of the roads the journey from Portsmouth to Chichester took from two to three hours by coach. The introduction of the regulated mail service in the late 18th century set new standards for punctuality and reliability. Coaching inns became centres of trade. Many were associated with one trade or another, such as wool or malt, as in Havant's case. They were often used for auctions and became in some cases secure places to hold money for transactions, taking on the role of an informal bank. Traders stored their goods in the inns own storerooms and circuit judges held court in them, all good news for the innkeeper who would provide rooms, food,

drink and stabling for the horses. Stagecoaches gradually disappeared during towards the late 19th century due to competition from the railways and the advent of motorised transport, but not everyone was happy as one old coachman remembered: *Them as 'ave seen coaches afore rails came into fashion 'ave seen something worth rememberin'! Them was 'appy days for old England, afore reform and rails turned everything upside down. (Recollections of a coachman, St Martin's-le-Grand Magazine).*

#### COACHES FROM HAVANT.

*To LONDON, The Independent, from The Bear, every morning at half-past seven; goes through Emsworth, Chichester, Petworth, Godalming, Ripley, &c.*

*To BRIGHTON, The Defiance (from Portsmouth) calls at The Dolphin and The Bear Inns, every morning at nine - and a Post Coach (from Southampton) calls at The Dolphin, every morning- (Sunday excepted) at half past eleven.*

*To CHICHESTER, a Post Coach (from Portsmouth) calls at The White Hart, every afternoon (Sunday excepted) at half-past five.*

*To PORTSMOUTH, the Defiance (from Brighton) calls at The Dolphin & Bear Inns, every afternoon at half-past-four - a Post Coach (from Chichester) calls at the White Hart, every morning (Sunday excepted) at nine.*

*To SOUTHAMPTON, a Post Coach (from Brighton) calls at The Dolphin, every afternoon (Sunday excepted) at half-past-two.*

Pigot & Co.'s Commercial Directory for Hampshire, 1830.

*LONDON new LIGHT COACH called the SELF DEFENCE to carry only Four Insides, will set out from The Globe Inn, Oyster Street, Portsmouth, on Wednesday, the 3rd day of August, and continue to run every Wednesday, Friday, and Sunday morning, at a quarter before five o'clock, through Havant, Emsworth, Chichester, Midhurst, Haslemere, Guildford, and Ewell, to the Swan with Two Necks, Lad Lane, London, from whence it will return every Thursday, Saturday, and Tuesday morning, at six o'clock. Performed by WILLIAM WATERHOUSE & CO. who beg leave to inform the Public that this Coach will be conducted in a superior style to any on the*

*London Road: they have selected the best inns on the same, where Passengers will have the best accommodations on the most reasonable terms, but will not be accountable for any parcel, or Passenger's luggage above five pounds, unless entered as such, and paid for accordingly.*

*Hampshire Telegraph 23rd July 1808*

*THE CHICHESTER & LONDON ROYAL PATENT MAIL COACH, carrying Four Insides, and only Two Outsides, sets off every evening at Seven o'clock, from the Coach office, opposite the Dolphin Inn, Chichester, by the new Road, through Petworth, Godalming, Guildford, Leatherhead, Ashsted, Epsom, Ewell, Merton, and Tooting, and arrives at the White Horse Inn, Fetter Lane, London, every morning at six. N.B. Messrs. Barber & Co's Coach through Havant and Emsworth, arrives at Chichester every Evening in time for the above Coach, and leaves Chichester every Morning soon after the arrival of the Mail from London. Bognor, Chichester, Emsworth, Havant and Hayling Island, fast four horse COACHES – THE INDEPENDENT, through Haslemere and Midhurst, Monday, Wednesday and Friday, the EARL of MARCH through Petworth, Tuesday, Thursday and Saturday, from the Belle Sauvage, Ludgate Hill, morning at a quarter before nine, and Hatchett's New White Horse Cellar, at quarter past nine o'clock.*

*The Times 3rd April 1844*

## POST HOUSES

As well as refreshing the thirsty traveller and the local workingman, certain inns in the town of Havant acted as Post Houses, collecting and delivering mail to various parts of the country. The only way to get mail delivered to another town or city was by horse and in the late 18th century, John Palmer, a theatre manager of Bath, complained to the Post Office about the slowness of mail delivery. He proposed a system whereby mail was delivered by horse-drawn coach, with swift changes of horses every 10 miles. This would allow a high average speed and increased security for the mail. The introduction of this regulated mail service set new standards of punctuality and reliability with the postal service becoming legendary and the postman, in his scarlet Post Office livery, and armed with his all too essential musket and pistols, became the legend's hero. So reliable was the service that it



was said that many a village and town could set their clocks by the sound of the postman's horn.

In Havant in the late eighteenth century and into the nineteenth the post centred on the coaching inns – the Dolphin in West Street and the White Hart in East Street. In 1784 a directory for Havant describes the post days as:

*To London every day at one o'clock, except Saturday; returns every day except Monday, at eight o'clock. Western post goes out on Sunday, Wednesday and Friday mornings; returns Sunday, Tuesday and Thursday nights.*

By the end of 1785, coaches were travelling the length and breadth of England. By 1786, the London–Edinburgh route was being completed within 60 hours. For fifty years, mail coaches were the speediest road service in the country. A later directory for the town, dated 1793–98 describes the same:

*A mail coach passes through this place from The Crown Inn, Portsmouth, every morning at eight o'clock to The Swan Inn, Chichester, and returns to Portsmouth the same evenings, taking the mail from hence as it goes and returns.*

In 1825, the Bear Inn, in East Street, was being advertised as a Posting House and Excise Office, and by 1828, directories for the town were advertising post coaches stopping at the White Hart and the Dolphin daily from Southampton and Brighton. But the coming of the railways quickly brought an end to the mail coach era. The last London based mail coach left for Norwich in April 1846. But horse-drawn vans and carts continued to transport mail locally throughout the 19th century, and even into the next. Even by 1867 the Bear Inn and the Dolphin Commercial Inn were still being advertised as Posting Houses.

*THE CHICHESTER & LONDON ROYAL PATENT MAIL COACH, carrying Four Insides, and only Two Outsides, sets off every evening at Seven o'clock, from the Coach office, opposite The Dolphin Inn, Chichester, by the new Road, through Petworth, Godalming, Guildford, Leatherhead, Ashsted, Epsom, Ewell, Merton, and Tooting, and arrives at The White Horse Inn, Fetter Lane, London, every morning at six. N.B. Messrs. Barber & Co's Coach*

*through Havant and Emsworth, arrives at Chichester every Evening in time for the above Coach, and leaves Chichester every Morning soon after the arrival of the Mail from London.*

*Hampshire Telegraph 29th August 1808*

### THE BEAR HOTEL

The Bear Hotel in East Street probably rivals the Black Dog as Havant's most historic Inn. The 18th century building, reputedly built in 1747, has dominated this part of Havant for well over 200 years, although, according to the Court Books of Havant, the Bear originally stood on the south side of East Street. Early records refer to the Inn as the Black Bear Inn and later it is recorded as the Bear Family & Commercial Inn & Posting House.

The Bear is a fine three storey building, typical of its period, and built in the handsome local materials of blue header bricks with red brick dressings, rubbed window arches and quoins, with a roof of small clay peg tiles. The stable yard, with parts of the stable buildings still surviving, is reached by the old coaching door and archway through the main building. Now also part of the Bear is formerly a separate two storey building to the east of the original inn – this is of the same age as the main building and built of similar materials and was once a wine shop but was incorporated as part of the Bear in the early part of the twentieth century.

Along with the Dolphin Inn, the Bear was a coaching stop on the Portsmouth to Brighton run, and on the 28th February 1842 the young Queen Victoria is reputed to have changed horses on her way to a visit to Portsmouth. A fine print of the time shows the Queen's carriage as it passes through the crowds at Emsworth. It is certainly recorded that the King of Saxony did change horses here on his way to Portsmouth in April 1844, as did former Prime Ministers Lord Melbourne and Lord John Russell on their journey from Brighton. By 1830 the inn was also a stopping off post on the London to Portsmouth route with The Independent and other coaches stopping daily. It is believed that the coach from London turned off of North Street into Bear Lane (now Prince George Street) and travelled along the lane into the rear of the inn.

One legend, which has been refuted, is that Nelson stopped here on his way to Portsmouth before the Battle of Trafalgar, though the inn has played host to the former wartime leaders Winston Churchill and Dwight Eisenhower<sup>2</sup> and later the former Canadian Prime Minister Jean Chretien.

Like the Black Dog petty sessions were held at the Bear during the 19th century and the Inn was also used for ceremonial dinners and dances and other public meetings such as auctions and sales (see example from May 1785). One such occasion was in September 1824 when the Duke of Norfolk and Sir George Staunton dined, along with most of the resident gentry of Havant to celebrate the opening of the Hayling Bridge. Well before this time, in 1763, the earliest recording of Freemasonry in Havant is of the Bear Lodge, which met at the Bear until the Lodge ceased in 1768. Another lodge, the Lodge of Providence, met at the Bear from 1825 to 1834. The Bear Inn was also the headquarters of the Havant section of the Bere Forest Rangers, and here the whole corps assembled in state in 1815 to give a present of plate valued at 100 guineas to the commanding officer Major Butler.

In 1888, eight residents of Havant, one being the landlord of the Bear, Henry Plaisted, met to form the Havant Club for residents of the town and the neighbourhood. The premises to be used were the billiard, smoking and reading rooms recently built at the rear of the Bear. The Club moved to its present premises in 1892. In 1892 the Bear was also the headquarters of The Havant Cycling Club.

Throughout its long history the Bear has had strong connections with the brewing and inn keeping families of Havant. In 1812 it was acquired by Havant brewer Thomas Israel Clark who in 1821 surrendered it to his brother-in-law, Havant brewer Samuel Gloyne, in an auction of that year. For nearly 80 years, until its sale in 1898, the premises were owned by the Gloyne family. In 1812, Elizabeth Gray<sup>3</sup> took on the licence of the inn after it was acquired by Thomas Clark, and after 29 years of running the Dolphin Inn in West Street with her late husband.

From September 1840 the Locke family held the licence for many years and were related to the Hammond family of the brewery of that name. Henry Binsted Locke was among the different characters that held the licence at the

Inn, holding the licence for almost 30 years, until his death in 1870. He was then followed by his wife Mary Ann (daughter of Havant Brewer John Hammond), who died in 1877, and later his daughter Katie and between them they clocked up around 50 years of service at the Inn. It was under the tenure of Henry Locke that the Bear became a first class family and commercial hotel.

In May 1898 the Bear Hotel, along with seven other public houses and the Gloyne Brewery in South Street, were finally sold by the Gloyne Estate with the Bear Hotel being acquired by the then hotel keeper, Louis Aime Dubois with the beer supplied by Bidens Sea Horse Brewery, Gosport probably from their brewery at the Prince of Wales in West Street. The hotel at this sale was described as:

*The Capacious and Admirably Situated Well-Known FREEHOLD POSTING HOUSE, being "the bear hotel", East Street, Havant, The arrangement of which is a Broad Gateway Entrance leading to the Entrance Hall, Market and Commercial Rooms, as also to the Private Parlour, Smoking or Club Room, and Well-Lighted Full Size BILLIARD ROOM, fitted with Lavatory, W.C., etc. A Good and Well-Lighted Staircase gives access to the First and Second Floors, on which are a LARGE COFFEE ROOM, DRAWING ROOM, NINE BEDROOMS, Box Room, Attic, W.C., etc. From the Gateway Entrance and also from the Front approaches are given to a PUBLIC BAR (AND BAR PARLOUR) As also TO THE TAP and Tap Room. In connection with the Hotel there is also a Good RETAIL WINE AND SPIRIT SHOP OR STORE Fronting into East Street with excellent Range of Vaulted Cellarage thereto attached, and in the rear is a RANGE OF RECENTLY CONSTRUCTED STABLING Consisting of Stalls and Loose Boxes for Eighteen Horses, with Sets of Coach-Houses, Harness Room, Ostlers' House with Parlour, Two Bedrooms and Kitchen, as also Coal, Wood and Chaff Stores, Beer Stores and Long Range of Corn and Hay Lofts over Stabling, Open Carriage Shelter and other conveniences with a VERY LARGE WALLED-IN KITCHEN GARDEN IN REAR, The Posting Yard having the advantage of a Gateway Entrance into the Pallant. This Property possesses a Frontage of 81ft. with the great depth into the Pallant Gateway before alluded to.*

Partially rebuilt in 1969, when new accommodation suites and a restaurant were added to the rear of the property, the hotel has seen many changes over the years, including the addition of the building (London House) to the east of the main property which at one time acted as a wine shop under the management of Louis Dubois. Dubois previously ran the hotel for many years prior to the beginning of the First World War, and in 1918 the personal representatives of Louis Dubois conveyed the property to Gosport Brewers, Biden & Co. Ltd., Sea Horse Brewery. Later the hotel was acquired by Portsmouth Brewers Brickwoods Ltd (Whitbread Ltd, 1971) who carried out renovations at a cost of £250,000, including enlarging the restaurants and adding other reception facilities to accommodate parties etc.

The Bear today is a much-respected family hotel with over forty rooms, restaurant and three function rooms. Entrance can be reached by the old coaching door and archway and at the rear of the hotel the old stables and stable buildings survive. The building is now listed as a Grade II listed building.

#### HAVANT BEAR INN - POSTING HOUSE & EXCISE OFFICE

*ELIZABETH GRAY begs most gratefully to acknowledge the many favours received her and her late husband's residence at the Dolphin, and most respectfully to inform her Friends and Commercial Gentlemen, that she has taken the BEAR INN, and hopes by assiduous attention, keeping neat Post Chaise, able Horses, and careful Drivers, to merit a continuation of their patronage.*

*N.B. Gentlemen Travellers may depend on having comfortable Beds, good Wines, Spirits, etc; likewise good Hay and Corn:- and she hopes by good attention to obtain a continuance of the many favours received from them and the Public.*

*Hampshire Telegraph 5th October 1812*

Bear Inn, Havant TO be LET and entered on at Michalmas next –

*The old and established INN and POSTING HOUSE the BEAR, at Havant, with good Yard, Lock-up Coach-Houses and Stables. This concern is well worthy the attention of any person wishing to embark in the above line; it is*

*connected with the first Posting Houses, has a most respectable local as well as commercial trade, and the tenant who is now quitting it has lived there these last fifteen years with a large family. For full particulars apply to Mr. Samuel Gloyne, Havant, the proprietor.*

*Hampshire Telegraph* 18th May 1840

## THE DOLPHIN INN

The original Dolphin Inn, later known as the Dolphin Hotel, was situated at what is now the entrance to the Meridian Centre in West Street. It played a very important part in Havant's life until its demolition in 1958 to make way for the Market Parade arcade, which in turn was replaced with the Meridian Centre.

*Pigot's Directory* of 1830 describes the Dolphin as '*the principal Inn of Havant and a convenient and well accustomed House*,' though the inn predates this date by many years. Prior to his death in 1810 William Gray had run the Dolphin Inn for 27 years, leaving his wife and mother of their ten children to carry on running the inn after his death. A fine epitaph to him can be seen in St Faith's church. An advertisement in the *Hampshire Telegraph* on the 24th December 1810 records:

## DOLPHIN INN & POSTING HOUSE & EXCISE OFFICE

*Elizabeth Gray returns her most grateful thanks to the Nobility, Gentry and Inhabitants of Havant and its neighbourhood and to Commercial Gentlemen, for the many favours received during her late husband's time; and begs leave to inform them that she intends to continue the said business for the support of Herself and ten children. – She assures the public, that it is her determination to keep GOOD POST HORSES; and neat and roomy CHAISE; likewise a capital One-horse Chaise and horse.N.B. Gentlemen travelling may depend on having comfortable beds, good wines, spirits etc; likewise good Hay and Corn; she hopes, by such attention to obtain a continuence of the many favours received from them and the public.*

By 1812 the inn was under the control of James Wise, until his death in 1845, Elizabeth Gray having taken over the running of The Bear Inn in East Street. Subsequently the inn was owned by Charles Lellyett, a member of a

well known Havant family, until its sale to Samuel Clarke sometime before 1870. It would appear that some time before 1858 the inn became known as the Dolphin Family and Commercial Hotel. By 1871 the hotelkeeper was John Purnell who supplied the military camps at Hayling Island with beer and refreshments and who also supplied other outside events in the Havant area with his wares.

At one time the rear of the building boasted a bowling green and a pleasure garden with kitchen garden, and a corn market was formerly held there on Saturdays during the 19th century. The inn was also a Post House, bringing mail from both Southampton and Brighton with coaches calling daily en route from Brighton to Portsmouth and Southampton. It was also one of the principal coaching inns on the south coast route, as well as a stopping off point for coaches to and from London. Like the other principal inn in Havant, the Bear Inn, it also played host to many local auctions and sales of property.

For many years the inn belonged to Samuel Clarke of the Homewell Brewery who must have supplied the inn with its beer. In 1903, along with several other Havant inns belonging to Clarke, it was purchased by George Gale & Co. of Horndean, and remained with that brewery until its closure in 1958. The sales particulars for the sale in June 1903 give a particularly good description of the hotel at this time:

The Old-Established FULLY-LICENSED FREEHOLD HOTEL known as

The Dolphin West Street, Havant,

*Having Good Hotel Entrance, Large Bar, Coffee, Commercial and Smoking Rooms, Drawing Room, Private Office, Store Room and W.C., Four Bedrooms, Three Attic Bedrooms, Kitchen, Wash-house, Pantry, Larder etc. A SIDE GATEWAY ENTRANCE LEADS TO THE TAP Which Contains Tap Room or Bar, Parlour and Three Bedrooms. THE STABLE ADJOINING Consists of TWO SETS WITH FOUR STALLS AND STANDING FOR SIX HORSES With Lofts over and Open Coach House. There is a Good Yard with Open Shed, Piggery and Two W.C's, also A SMALL PLEASURE GARDEN In rear with Backway Entrance is A FIRST CLASS BOWLING GREEN In good order, and in rear of this A CAPITAL KITCHEN GARDEN. There is a Frontage of 45ft. with a depth of 404 ft. or thereabouts. N.B. – The Erection*

*of Billiard Room and Covered Way belongs to the Tenant.*

The stables at the rear of the Dolphin, as were many buildings in Havant at the time, converted during the Second World War into a factory making various parts for aircraft to aid the war effort. Like a number of inns in Havant it was a meeting place for various clubs and societies in the town and it was here that the first members met to form, what would become the very successful Havant Rugby Club. After its demolition in 1958 a replacement Dolphin public house was built by George Gale & Co. on Park Road South.

#### Death of Mr. William Gray Of The Dolphin Inn

*Died on Friday evening, after twenty-one weeks severe illness, aged fifty-two, Mr. William Gray of the Dolphin Inn, which house he had kept twenty seven years, very much to his credit and the satisfaction of his friends; his loss will be greatly felt by a large family, having left a widow and ten children.*

*Hampshire Telegraph 12th*

November 1810

Epitaph in St Faith's Church, Havant William Gray,

died 9th November 1810, aged 52.

*Tho' kindness labor'd to assuage his pain,*

*And art had lent her soothing aid in vain;*

*No impious murmers, no indecent strife,*

*Mark'd the last moments of his useful life.*

*Calmly resign'd, he left his cause to God'*

*And kiss'd with pious lips the friendly rod.*

#### FATAL ACCIDENT AT THE DOLPHIN HOTEL, WEST STREET, HAVANT.

*A shocking accident occurred here on Wednesday to a man named William Barrett. The deceased was employed cleaning a portion of the frontage of the Dolphin Hotel, and it seems that he lost his balance on the ladder on which he was at work, falling a considerable distance to the ground. Dr. Stewart Norman was quickly on the spot, and rendered every hope for the poor man, who was conveyed to his home, where he died at about one*



*o'clock from the internal injuries he received. He leaves a widow and a large family quite unprovided for. An inquest will be held this morning.*

*Hampshire Telegraph 31st May 1884*

### THE GEORGE INN

On the west side, not far from the church crossroads in North Street, the name George Inn can still be seen across the outside of the premises, now used as offices. The current building dates from around 1890 and was built by the Havant Brewers, Gloyne and Son, to replace an earlier inn on the site. Formerly one of the foremost inns of Havant, there has been a George or George and Dragon in North Street for over 200 years and it is reputed to have opened as an inn in October 1749. One of the earliest principal coaching inns in the town, a directory of 1792 states,

*Goddards Stage Waggon sets out from the George Inn (Havant) every Saturday at 12 o'clock, arrives at The George Inn (Southwark) Tuesday at 12 o'clock; sets out from thence on Wednesday at 12 o'clock and returns to Havant on Friday evening.*

Early photographs of the earlier George Inn show a large imposing building – it unclear if this building in turn had replaced an even earlier inn.

One of the many innkeepers over the years who ran the George was George Collins, who kept the inn for many years and when he died in 1812 he was buried in St Faith's churchyard with military honours. As well as running the inn he was also a Sergeant in Captain Butler's '*Corps of Bere Forest Rangers (Volunteers)*'.

The new George Inn was a popular meeting place for the towns-folk of Havant and the large clubroom upstairs hosted meetings of various groups such as the Oddfellows and other local groups. It was even reputedly said that on market days the inn would stay open from 7 a.m. until midnight.

For many years the inn was owned by the South Street Brewing firm of Gloyne until its sale in May 1898 to the Emsworth Brewers, Kinnell and Hartley Ltd. (incorporated 1903). The inn at this time was described as:

## The George Inn, North Street, Havant.

*A fully-licensed copyhold Tavern of Recent Construction with Good Elevation in Red Brickwork, most conveniently arranged with Superior Bar, Tap Room, Private Parlour, Smoking Room, Large Kitchen, Wash-house with Boiler therein. A well-lighted Staircase gives access on the First Floor to Five Bedrooms and Club Room. In the rear is a LARGE YARD WITH GATEWAY ENTRANCE Having Coal and Wood Stores and other Outbuildings. This Property which possesses a Frontage of 33ft. with a Depth of 111ft. or thereabouts, is Copyhold of the Manor of Havant Rectory at a yearly rent of 6d. and Heriot 1s.*

Kinnell and Hartley were taken over by the Chichester Brewers, Henty and Constable, in 1929 who in turn sold their holdings to Tamplins in 1955. The inn ended its days as the St George and Dragon Public House before finally closing in the early 1960s.

### Death of Mr. George Collins of The George Inn

*On Monday died Mr. George Collins, late of the George Inn at Havant. He was a Segeant in Captain Butler's Corps of Bere Forest Rangers (Volunteers). He was buried at Havant with Military Honours.*

*Hampshire Telegraph 28th September 1812*

GEORGE PRATT.

### Publican & Photographer of Havant.

George Pratt, along with Samuel Whitbread and William Scorer, amongst others, belonged to that select band of photographers who recorded daily life in Havant before and after the First World War. George was born in Chichester in 1867 and was apprenticed to a photographer of the city before in the 1890s moving to London to become a butler. Advised to leave London for health reasons he came to Havant and took over the George Inn in North Street in 1897. Initially business was slow and George took a casual job as a waiter at the Masonic Hall in Waterloo Road while his wife Lucy ran the pub.

He later joined the East Surrey Regiment and served in the Boer War where he was involved in the relief of Ladysmith in 1901. Back at the George after

the war he returned to photography, taking the majority of his photographs in the garden and using the scullery as his darkroom. After great success with commissions and with his photographic business flourishing, he decided in 1915 to open a photographer's shop further along North Street and give up the public house. As the business and his reputation grew he became an official police photographer during the First World War. On one engagement he was asked by the police to take a photograph of an Egyptian princess who had died at Hayling Island, as proof of her death for her family in Egypt. George Pratt died in 1949, but today his photographs, and especially the postcards he produced of Havant, are in demand by collectors and historians alike.

#### Fareham General Annual Licensing Meeting

##### GEORGE INN, HAVANT

*The next was the George Inn, at Havant, occupied by John Russell, who was fined October the 22nd, 1862, 1s. and 7s. and 6d. costs for Sunday trading, but as it was explained that the offence was but of a trivial character, and moreover, that the house had been well conducted since, the licence of this house was renewed, the applicant being cautioned to conduct it well for the future.*

*Hampshire Telegraph 5th September 1863*

##### THE BLACK DOG

Rivalling the Bear Hotel as Havant's most historic inn, the Black Dog, situated on the corner of West Street and Brockhampton Lane, has played an important part in Havant's history. Formerly the centre for the political business of the town, Petty Sessions held by the town's magistrates and important town meetings were held here at the Black Dog assembly rooms, as well as property and auction sales. Records for 1859 show that local magistrates sat on alternate Tuesdays to hear cases, and by 1875 were sitting alternate Thursdays for minor cases. A directory of 1878 states:

*Petty Sessions for the district of Fareham Division are held on alternate Tuesdays at the Black Dog and the magistrates usually sitting are John Deverall Esq., Chairman, Rear-Admiral G.W.D.O'Callaghan, C.B., Henry*

*Spencer Esq., Capt. Thomas Hodgkinson, R.N., Capt. Hankey, R.N., and Col. Sir Frederick Fitzwygram, Bt., Charles John Longcroft Esq., is their Clerk. The above list contains notable landowners and worthies of the Havant area. On the 12th January 1852 it was the venue for the setting up of the Havant Board of Health (Health of Towns Act) under the chairmanship of Captain Sir Henry Leake of West Leigh House, with the aim of improving the sanitation and general health of the town (the fore-runner of Havant Urban District Council – see advertisement).*

The building, in parts at least 400 hundred years old, has many of its original features - low ceilings, old beams, and floors of different levels. When alterations were made to the building in 1972 some very early walling and beams of the 16th century were uncovered and were incorporated into a new bar. It is unclear how long the inn had been serving the thirsty towns folk of Havant but it is probable that the building had been an inn for at least 300 years.

Until 1824 the inn was associated with the Hammond family and by 1784 the innkeeper was John Hammond, who also owned the nearby brewery site, Hammond & Butler Brewery, though it is probable the inn can be traced back in the Hammond family for further generations. It is also probable that the Hammond family were producing their own beer on the premises prior to acquiring the nearby brewery. It was after John Hammond's death in 1824 that the public house was sold from his estate, and was eventually acquired by another Havant brewer, Samuel Gloyne. Soon after being acquired by Samuel Gloyne the inn was put up to be let as an advertisement in the *Hampshire Telegraph* of 4th July 1825 testifies:

*TO be LET, and entered on immediately,- The well-accustomed INN and PUBLIC HOUSE, known by the sign of the BLACK DOG, standing in one of the best situations in Havant. The Premises are very commodious, and comprise every convenience for carrying on a good trade. For terms and particulars apply to Mr. Gloyne, Havant; and for a view of the Premises apply to the Tenant, Mr. J. Carpenter.*

The inn stayed with the Gloyne family for over seventy years until all the family brewing and public houses assets were sold off in a sale in May 1898

the Black Dog was acquired by the Emsworth Brewers Kinnell and Hartley, and was described at this sale as:

The Capacious Corner Block of FULLY LICENSED FREEHOLD

Premises known as The Black Dog, West Street, Havant,

*Arranged with Large Bar, Smoking and Tap Rooms, a Second or Small Smoking Room, Parlour, VERY LARGE CLUB ROOM With separate Entrance from the Street (formerly used as the Police Court House), A Second Large Club or Lodge Room, Four Bedrooms, Two Attics, Good Kitchen fitted with Boiler, Larder and Domestic Offices, as also a Good Beer Cellar, Large Coal and Wood Stores; in the rear is a LARGE YARD WITH GATEWAY, STABLING FOR SIX HORSES, OPEN CART SHED ETC., As also a Detached Store with Loft over and LARGE PLOT OF GARDEN GROUND Adjoining the Main Premises but Fronting into West Street.*

*There is also a Large Plot of Land in the rear Fronting into Brockhampton Lane.*

*The foregoing possesses a Frontage of 97ft. with Depth of 175ft. or thereabouts.*

From 1837 until 1846 the innkeeper at the Black Dog was John Adams who also carried on a printing and book binding business, probably from the premises. Before the Town Hall was built, the Black Dog assembly rooms were used as a place of entertainment by the townsfolk of Havant. Many ambitious programmes of music and theatre were played here and strolling players and minstrels, conjurers and Punch & Judy men also entertained. This practice of entertainment was even carried on in the 1960s and 70s when the Black Dog hosted folk music nights with the cream of British folk music performing. It is even rumoured that big stars of the music world such as Paul Simon, latterly of Simon and Garfunkle, played here before they were famous. Jasper Carrott also appeared here.

Later various brewing companies owned the property including Henty & Constable, who acquired the building in 1929 until they sold to Tamplins Brewery, Brighton and Friary Meux in 1955. By 1996, however, it was decided to change its name to the Court House, in line with one of its

previous uses. For such a well-loved public house it came as a shock when it closed in 2002. It has now been converted in to apartments and the Grade II listed building now awaits the next episode in its long history.

#### THE SIMPSON AND LANT FAMILIES, KEEPERS OF THE BLACK DOG INN

As with many public houses, not just in Havant, there was in some cases a continuation of the licence through family members. The Black Dog, through marriage, can trace four different family members succeeding each other as the licensee of the inn. By 1851 Samuel Simpson is recorded as the innkeeper of the Black Dog. The census for 1861 had Samuel as a Victualler at the premises along with his wife Emily and four children. Samuel appears to have been well respected during his time at the Black Dog and annual dinners held by the 4th Hants Rifle Volunteers at the inn testify to this when his *'capital suppers, well cooked and served by the host Mr Samuel Simpson'*.

Samuel Simpson died in 1872 aged 54 and the licence passed to his daughter Emily.<sup>4</sup> In September 1873 Emily Simpson married George Lant, formerly the keeper of the Dolphin Tap in South Street, Havant and in the following year on the 26th August 1874 the licence of the inn passed to George Lant. George Lant appears not to be quite as respectable as his father-in-law, Samuel Simpson, as he had previous to moving to the Black Dog been fined 20 shillings for selling beer after the eleven o'clock closure in November 1870 at the Dolphin Tap in South Street. More worrying was a conviction for cruelty to a horse in September 1878 while at the Black Dog for using the horse while it was quite unfit for work. Again he was fined 20 shillings.<sup>5</sup>

In early 1881 Emily Lant died aged 33 leaving her husband and her young son George Samuel to carry on at the inn.<sup>6</sup> At the time of the census in 1881 George Lant is described as a Licensed Victualler at the inn along with his house keeper, Mary Ann Windsor. In 1883 George Lant married Mary Ann Windsor<sup>7</sup> and died at Havant aged 51 on the 29th April 1890. In May 1888 a break in at the Black Dog resulted in about £300 in cheques, cash and gold and silver being stolen from the bedroom of *'Mrs Lant, the landlady when she retired at twelve o'clock'* It appears the stolen cash and other items were not recovered.<sup>8</sup>

It would appear, as well as being licensee at the Black Dog, George Lant turned his attention to other pursuits. Shortly after his death a sale at the Black Dog resulted in auction of a large quantity of wood products such as bunts, oak faggots and 30 dozen new hurdles etc., along with farm equipment, hay, bricks and various brick and other carts suggesting that George Lant was carrying on another business elsewhere.<sup>9</sup>

Sometime after the death of George Lant it appears Mary Ann Lant moved to Southsea and opened a boarding house, dying in Southsea in 1911 aged 76.

#### BLACK DOG INN, HAVANT

*JOHN ADAMS respectfully returns thanks to the inhabitants of Havant, Emsworth, and his numerous friends, for their liberal patronage towards him during the last six years, and earnestly solicits and continuation of the same. Good Beds, and Stabling, and Lock-up Coach House.*

*Hampshire Telegraph* 18th September 1846

#### HAVANT PUBLICAN ROBBED

*Information has been received of the loss of about £70 in gold and silver from the landlady's bedroom of the Black Dog Inn, Havant. Mrs Lant, the landlady, took the amount in a cash box when she retired at twelve on Friday night, but when she arose next morning found the cash box and contents were missing. It is said that there was also a large amount of notes and cheques in the box, the total being about £300.*

*Hampshire Telegraph* May 1888

#### OLD WHITE HART

The White Hart Inn stood a little further back along East Street from the replacement public house that replaced it in 1889. This earlier inn, a brick built property, was probably a replacement for an even earlier inn that stood on the site. First recorded in a directory for Havant in 1783 with Joseph Bannister<sup>10</sup> as the innkeeper, the inn probably dates back quite a while from this date. A Post House, the mail coach called every morning at the inn on its way to Chichester and it was, along with, the Dolphin, Bear, George, and Black Dog, one of the principal inns of the town. Until his death in 1824, the inn belonged to Havant Brewer John Hammond. In August 1824, the White

Hart, along with eight other public houses formerly owned by Hammond, as well as his Havant Brewery, were sold off.

By the time of the 1842 Tithe Award the White Hart was owned by the eminent Petersfield lawyer, landowner, and M.P., Cornthwaite John Hector, who died, however, in poverty in the same year. Hector also owned various inns around Petersfield, Harting and East Meon. It is unclear who acquired the inn after this date but by 1855 the owners of the premises were George Henty & Son, brewers of Chichester. In 1874, the inn was the scene of a fight between Conservative supporters, led by the landlord James Harding, and Liberal supporters of William Stone of Leigh Park, over the election of that year. The fight lasted over an hour and windows were broken in properties in East Street. Stone lost the election and shortly after sold Leigh Park and left the area. The White Hart Inn finally closed in 1889 when the entrance to North Street was widened. The new White Hart, built to replace the older inn was built on the corner of East Street and North Street in 1889.

In April 1890 the Hampshire Telegraph records the property '*laterly known as the White Hart and belonging to Messrs Henty, brewers of Chichester*' being sold. The report records '*the property, which is 25ft. frontage and 42ft. depth, only realised £200.*' It would appear that the Havant Club, opened in 1892, took over the site of the former public house, the club moving there from its former home at the Bear Hotel. Interestingly the architect of the new club, Mr. A. Edwin Stallard, also designed the new White Hart public house.

#### A CAUTION

*On Sunday evening last a short respectably dressed man, with a large carpet bag, and a woman who appeared to have lost the sight in one eye, went to the White Hart, in Havant, and hired a bed for the night, and after a short time desired to be shown their room as they had travelled a long distance and were tired. On Monday morning they left, and nothing wrong was noticed till the bed was being made, when it was found that a great quantity of feathers had been taken from both bolster and bed, and which, no doubt, had been conveyed away in the bag.*  
Hampshire Telegraph 31st March 1849



## HAVANT PETTY SESSIONS, September 30th 1860

### THE POLICE AMONG THE PUBLICANS

*Henry Mengham, at the WHITE HART, of Havant, was charged by Police-Sergeant Daniels, with Henry Mengham, at the WHITE HART, having on the 14th instant permitted drunkenness and other disorderly conduct in his house. It appears that Mengham has only been a short time in the above house, and when he applied for his transfer was cautioned by the magistrates, as a report had been made by the police. Fined £2 to include costs.*

*Hampshire Advertiser 1st September 1860*

### HAVANT'S LOST PUBLIC HOUSES

Over the centuries many inns and taverns have come and gone in and around the town of Havant, some no more than a beerhouse, producing their own beer for sale. Records recount a handful of inns, taverns and beer and alehouses that were in business in Havant leading up to the beginning of the nineteenth century. The fire of Havant in about 1760, which destroyed much of the town, no doubt put paid to many an inn. Many pubs in Havant that are still standing have replaced earlier inns of the same name as have for example the George in North Street, the Wheelwright's Arms in Emsworth Road and The White Hart in East Street.

At the turn of the twentieth century there were 19 public houses in the town of Havant, 18 situated on the four main roads that run through the town and another, the Robin Hood, in Homewell Lane. Over the coming years the public house trade declined leaving the town now with eight public houses. Early inns, taverns and beer and alehouses that have disappeared include:

### THE SUN INN

Recorded as early as early as 1673, this Inn was situated on the south side of East Street. In 1780 it is recorded that an Inn called the Sun Inn was burnt to the ground.

## THE ROYAL OAK

When the old Turnpike Road was widened at the eastern entrance to Havant an inn called the Royal Oak was demolished. This had been built on the site of an old gravel pit and old bones were found there in mysterious circumstances. In his book of 1857, *A Topographical Account of the Hundred of Bosmere in the County of Southampton including the Parishes of Havant, Warblington and Hayling*, Charles Longcroft gives the following account:

### The Royal Oak Havant, 1762

*When the Turnpike Act was carried into effect, there stood at the eastern entrance of the town, a public-house called the "Royal Oak," the site of which comprised an ancient gravel-pit, and had been granted out by John Moody when lord of the manor. It became necessary to remove this house, and it was accordingly done: some bones "were found in excavating for the road, and it was currently believed that some one had been murdered and buried there, but nothing was discovered which could give a clue to the circumstances under which the body had been interred. In digging a foundation under the west path of the South street some years since, the labourers found a coffin containing human remains, and several coffins were also found in digging out a cellar under the corner house belonging to Mr. Bulbeck. There was every appearance of the bodies having received Christian burial, and it was generally supposed that the churchyard had originally included the site on which the house stood.*

## THE WHITE BEAR INN

This Inn was situated on the south side of East Street and not to be confused with the Black Bear Inn. It was first recorded in the Manorial Rolls of Havant on the 20th June 1760: *Admission at the Court Baron of the manor of Havant of Sarah Grigg, widow, to a messuage and garden, formerly called the White Horse, then the Black Dog and late the White Bear, on the south side of East Street, Havant.* It was later recorded in the Rent Rolls of Havant of 1793, though, by this date it is occupied by Thomas Grigg, as a house known as formerly the Whitebear Inn.

## THE BELL

The Court Leet Rolls for 1745-96 record that John Betsworth lived at the Bell and was summoned because carrion in the garden of the Bell was a nuisance to his neighbour Edward Holton. In 1784 the innkeeper was John Randle, a member of a well-known local family. Possibly a earlier version of the later Six Bells.

## THE MILLERS ARMS

This short lived alehouse was situated on the corner of East Street and North Street, next door to the original White Hart Inn. The Millers Arms closed for business in 1888, when the alehouse was demolished to make way for both the widening of the entrance to North Street and the building of the new White Hart public house on the site the following year. The building was probably built in 1849 and the census return for 1861 records that the property was then used a pork butchers. From Around 1870 the premises was owned by William Pink of Fareham but in September 1877 the property was sold off by its then owners, The Steam Brewery, Cosham, at the sale of the brewery and its chain of public houses. The alehouse was licensed from October 1873 until its closure in 1888 by Josiah Carter and his wife Caroline (who later kept the Foresters Arms in North Street) when it was acquired by the Local Board of Health for the purpose of widening and improving the corners of North and East Streets. After its closure, Mr. Deane, occupier of the property, was paid £15 for relinquishing the property. What was left of the Millers Arm site and the premises adjoining was acquired for the sum of £1,050 by Messrs Henty & Son, Brewers of Chichester, who built the new White Hart on the corner of the two roads.

## SALE OF VALUABLE PROPERTY

*On Tuesday Mr. A.C. Lewis submitted for public competition at the Bear Hotel, by order of the Local Board, the valuable freehold property situated at the corner of North and East-streets, Havant, known as the Millers Arms and premises adjoining. The property was recently bought by the Local Authority for the purpose of widening and improving the corners of the above streets. At the present time the road at this part is only 23 feet wide, whereas when the conditional alterations are made, the width*

*will be 35 feet, which only leaves a frontage to the property in East-street of about 20 feet. The bidding commenced at £800, and the lot was ultimately knocked down to Messrs. Henty and Son, Brewers, Chichester, for £1,050.*

*Hampshire Telegraph 30th March 1889*

### THE MALT AND HOPS

The only known mentioned of this beerhouse is from an auction of 1850 when it was acquired along with the Laurel in South Street, and the Six Bells in North Street, by the Havant brewer and merchant Samuel Clarke. The sales particulars of July 1850 record the property as:

*That convenient well-built FREEHOLD FAMILY RESIDENCE, called the "MALT & HOPS," situate in the middle of East-street, with a frontage of 47 feet and with a depth leading to the Fair Field of 240 feet. This property is well worthy the attention of private families, as it has a large walled-in garden well stocked with choice fruit trees, and is in the most pleasant part of the town. The house contains three good parlours, seven bedrooms, kitchen, scullery, and out-buildings, and now carrying on a good retail business, with a cottage attached, in the occupation of Thomas Newell and Edward Morey, at a yearly rental of £23 10s.*

Thomas Newell, the tenant of the property, was indeed a beer retailer and maltster in East Street until his death in 1855 when it would appear that all connections with the beer trade ceased and no other mention of the property under the name of the Malt & Hops can be traced. He was also the only recorded maltster working in East Street.

### THE OLDE STARR

The original Old Starr in West Street, close to the Star Bridge, pre-dated another inn of the same name, and is not to be confused with the Star Hotel at the top of North Street. The first inn was believed to have burned down in about 1760, probably due to the fire that destroyed a large majority of the buildings in the town. Its successor, the Old Star, was almost certainly connected to The Star Brewery in West Street of the Ventham and Hammond families. It was sold off after the death of the Brewer John Hammond in 1824. Not too much is known of these early inns, though the Manorial Rolls of the

Court Leet of Havant for 1757 relates that:

*William Harris, one of the Tithingmen of this Liberty, being called out of his bed on Tuesday 13th October at about 11 o'clock of the same evening to quosh a riot at the house of Moses Smith bearing the sign of the Olde Starr of Havant, he was there insulted by Sergeant Cornall who drew his sword and threatened his life and took from him by violence the staff of his office.*

Early directories for Havant record Thomas Taylor at the Star in 1784 and Thomas Dix as the innkeeper in 1792. It does appear that the inn disappeared sometime after the sale in 1824 following John Hammond's death.

### THE ECHO

This Tavern was situated in West Street and is recorded in a directory for Havant for 1844 with Henry Aslett as the licensee (only known reference). Aslett kept the premises until his death in December 1873 when by that time the premises were known as the Cobden Arms. Aslett is recorded in certain directories for the town as a brewer and publican, probably at the malthouse and brew house to the rear of the property

### THE OLD FARM HOUSE INN

This inn, or more probably a beerhouse, is mentioned in 1854 in an advertisement for an auction of a property in North Street, Havant. It is recorded as: *'formerly occupied by Mrs Lydia Veal and the business of an ironmonger carried on successfully for many years, and afterwards converted into an inn called the Old Farm House.'*

It is possible that it was the forerunner of the Perseverance, or one of the other inns in North Street or that it was a short-lived beerhouse. Lydia Veal, who is mentioned in the advertisement, died aged 91 in 1834, but James Veal is recorded as a beer retailer in West Street in 1844 and his brother Richard was landlord of the White Hart, East Street, in 1847.

### NORTH STREET, TOWN OF HAVANT

*TO be SOLD by AUCTION, by Mr. C. LEWIS, on Saturday, the 25th March, 1854, at five o'clock in the afternoon, at the Bear Inn, Havant. – A very*

*desirable PROPERTY, situate in the centre of the Town and chief thoroughfare leading to the Railway Station, was formerly occupied by Mrs. Lydia Veal, and the business of an ironmonger carried on successfully for many years, and afterwards converted into an Inn called the Old Farm House, commanding a frontage of 35 feet and in depth 113 feet; any person wishing to embrace a good situation, well calculated for business purposes, this would be a good opportunity, as there is plenty of scope for any description of building. May be viewed, and Particulars with Conditions of Mr. Martin, Solicitor, Havant; and of Mr. C. Lewis, Auctioneer & Estate Agent, and Agent for the Hants, Sussex, Dorset, Fire Office, Havant, Hants.*

*N.B. A plan of the Property upon a large scale may be seen at the offices of the Auctioneer. Havant, March 3, 1854.*

*Hampshire Telegraph 18th March 1854*

#### THE ANCHOR INN

Not to be confused with the Blue Anchor beerhouse in South Street, this inn stood in West Street, opposite St Faith's church. The only mention of the inn is from 1754 when the then property is known as formerly the Anchor Inn, and then the Marlborough Head. The site was later demolished to make way for a new post office in 1892.

#### THE HEARTS OF OAK

West Street was formerly well served by public houses, now unfortunately only one survives. The Hearts of Oak beerhouse stood opposite another long gone pub the Fountain. From before 1870 it was run and owned by James Tier who also owned the Perseverance beerhouse in North Street. Tier, who was probably producing his own beer, sold both beerhouses to Brickwoods of Portsmouth in 1876. From 1885 until 1913, the licensee was Ewans Scarterfield, who also acted as a furniture dealer in the premises next door. In 1899 Scarterfield tried to change the name of the pub to the Pleasant Sunflower but was refused permission. The building, of three storeys, was situated on then a much narrower West Street. The public house, formerly part of the Brickwoods chain of public houses, closed after the Second World War and was demolished to make way for road widening and a row of shops

in the redevelopment of the town in the late 1950s.

### THE FOUNTAIN INN

The Fountain Inn stood on the south side of the road in West Street and was one of many beerhouses that sprung up in Havant in the early to mid-nineteenth century. The inn, or more probably a beerhouse, owes its origins to Havant brewer William Matthews Snr. who built The Four Quarter Brewery behind what would become the Fountain Inn some time before 1841. The inn, like the brewery itself had a chequered history. After William Matthews Junior, the son of William Matthews Senior, defaulted on repayments of loans the building eventually became the property of Eleanor Kelsall and Havant Merchant David Coldwell.<sup>11</sup> On the 29th September 1865 the brewery and Fountain Inn were sold for £550 to Havant carpenter and builder George Stallard, a member of the family of parchment makers of Havant. The indenture of sale described the property at this time as:

*Also that messuage or dwelling house now and for many years past used as a public house and called The Fountain Inn with the brewery, stable and other outbuildings, gateway, yard, garden land hereditaments and premises thereunto belonging situate on the south side of the West Street in the town of Havant in the county aforesaid. And also all that plot or piece of land adjoining to the premises wherein there is a spring of water and a pond paved with bricks.<sup>12</sup>*

Prior to this the property was leased to various tenants including who leased the inn including Joseph Bannister in 1852 who is described as a beer retailer and James Gad who was brewing behind the inn at the time of the sale to George Stallard in 1865 and Aaron Sharpe. On the 13th September 1900 the Fountain Inn was acquired by the Havant Brewery Company, who had their headquarters at the Prince of Wales Brewery further along West Street but on the 30th June 1913, after refusal of a renewal of the licence, the Fountain closed.<sup>13</sup>

Over the ensuing years the building had been used by various traders such as fishmongers, greengrocers, and picture framers until it was demolished when West Street was redeveloped in the late 1950s.

## HAVANT PETTY SESSIONS (23.9.1885)

### DRUNKENNESS AT THE FOUNTAIN, HAVANT

*A record of conviction was produced against Godfrey Bigwood, the landlord of this house, on the 15th of the present month, for having himself been drunk and also with permitting drunkenness there, the fine having been £5. Mr. Nance, the owner, stated that the tenant was now out of the premises and they were closed, and with a view of finding a new tenant an adjournment was agreed to until the 28th proximo.*

*Hampshire Telegraph 29th August 1885*

### THE SPEED THE PLOUGH

Now converted to a dwelling the Speed the Plough stands about 100 yards from St Faith's church on the east side of South Street. It originally stood next to the brewery of Samuel Gloyne, and was built by the Gloyne family in about 1865 and possibly replaced an earlier beerhouse on the site. The public house stayed with the family until its sale in 1898 to the Emsworth Brewery of Kinnell & Hartley, who sold the property, along with other public houses, to Henty & Contable in 1929. The sales particulars for May 1898 give us a good description of the public house at this time:

The LICENSED FREEHOLD BEER-HOUSE known as

"The Speed the Plough," South Street, Havant,

*Of Good Recent Construction and Well-built, arranged with Bar, Tap Room, Parlour, Four Bedrooms, Kitchen with Boiler etc., Two W.C's and Domestic Offices; adjoining at the side and rear is a LARGE PLOT OF GARDEN LAND WITH GATEWAY ENTRANCE, Well-built Two-Stall Stable and Coal and Wood Stores. There is also a Backway into Havant Lane.*

*This Property has a Frontage of 53ft 9in. or thereabouts with a Depth of 170ft. or thereabouts.*

The Speed the Plough first opened in around 1865, with the first licensee being Richard Tolman, who is recorded at the premises in 1867. In July 1870 the beerhouse was licensed for beer under Mary Outen, who previous to taking the pub was a farmer at Leigh. In 1889, her son Harry Outen, was



fined 5s 6d for selling beer on a Sunday during prohibited hours. Another one of its more colourful landlords, Vic Taylor, was a well known travelling Punch and Judy Man and Magician, who worked on the beach at Hayling Island. His autobiography *Reminiscences of a Showman* has been published by Penguin Books. The pub, acquired by Guildford Brewers Friary (Meux) in 1955, finally closed in the late 1960s.

#### HAVANT PETTY SESSIONS (15.6.1889) SUNDAY'S "LITTLE TRADE"

##### THE SPEED THE PLOUGH

*Harry Outen, the keeper of the "Speed the Plough" beerhouse, South Street, Havant, was summoned for having his house open at 10.45 on Sunday, the 2nd inst, Mr. H. Waincott (Walker & Waincott, Portsmouth) appeared for the defendant, P.S. McLaughlin and P.C. Pink, noticed two men enter the house from the yard and on running up they found them in the scullery, one of them (Turner) having a cup of beer in his hand, and the other (Ware) an empty glass before him. The Sergeant said to the defendant, "is this the little trade you do on a Sunday morning?" to which the defendant replied "No", but he was told that the facts would be reported to the Superintendent. – Constable Pink corroborated, and said that the men had stated that they had come to the house to look at some rabbits. – Mr. Waincott urged that police sergeant was doubtless a very good officer, but he had shown undue haste in bringing a landlord before the court. He also said that the beer in question had been given, and not sold. – Evidence to that effect was given, but the magistrate convicted the defendant and fined him 5s 6d. and 11s. costs. – George Turner and Harry Ware, unlawfully on the premises, were each fined 14s. 6d., including the costs, and were allowed a fortnight to pay.*

##### THE BLUE ANCHOR

This beerhouse, also just known as the Anchor, was situated towards the top of South Street opposite the St Faith's churchyard. Not too much is known of the early history of this public house. It is certain that it was here prior to the census of Havant in 1851, if not earlier. In 1844 there were five beer retailers recorded in South Street, along with William Gloyne at his brewery. Almost certainly one of these beer retailers was at the Blue Anchor.<sup>14</sup> An educated guess puts Henry Brown at the premises until his death in

1850. His widow, Louisa, is recorded in the 1851 census for Havant as a beer retailer in South Street, the only recorded beer retailer on the census returns for South Street for that year.

Probably one of the few Havant beerhouses with a poor reputation, one of the first definitive mentions of this beerhouse is the grisly record kept by Havant carrier Martha Burrows, who recorded in her diary: '*A navvy hanged himself at the "Anchor" beershop on the 26th May 1867.*' In 1871 the landlady was Elizabeth Peat whose husband Francis acted as a hardware dealer and who later kept the beerhouse himself but at this period the actual owner of the beerhouse was Ebenezer Robins, a Brighton brewer.<sup>15</sup> At a licensing meeting at Fareham Petty Sessions on the 27th October 1873 due to its poor condition it was stated: '*That the house (Blue Anchor) had been brought up to the proper value and order and the application for renewal of licence granted.*' The following licensee, Alfred Cousens, who also acted a Hire Carter in the town was declared bankrupt in August 1874, although he still managed to run the beerhouse for a few years after this date. It was later run from the mid 1890s and for many years until its closure by William Edney, who was also the parcel carrier for the Railway.

When road widening was taking place in 1889/90 the whole front of the pub was set back a few feet and the then owner Mr. Gillett (Messrs Young & Sons, Brewers of Portsmouth) was paid £60 in compensation. Road widening and realignment at the crossroads with the junctions of North and South Street was indeed being carried out at this stage but as the *Hampshire Telegraph* reported the building was being demolished and rebuilt anyway:

#### ANNUAL LICENSING SESSIONS 4th October 1890

*With respect to the Blue Anchor, Havant, the magisterial decision had been postponed. Supt. Stephenson drawing attention to the fact that the house was in a dilapidated state, Mr. Wainscot now informed the Bench that the owners (Messrs Young & Sons), had had the premises demolished, and were re-building the house, and the licence was renewed.*

An early photograph clearly shows the beerhouse jutting out further onto North Street before the road was clearly straightened at this point. Later the name of the beerhouse reverted to the Anchor, the name it held when it

closed on the 30th June 1914 due to the refusal of the renewal of the licence. The building still survives and is now occupied by an estate agent and solicitor.

#### IN LIQUIDATION – RE – COUSENS (THE ANCHOR ALEHOUSE)

TWO SERVICEABLE HORSES, THREE SETS OF HARNESS. TWO HEAVY RAVE CARTS, DUNG CARTS, FIREWOOD, POLES & OUTDOOR ARTICLES.

*Mr. H. Windsor is instructed by the Trustees of the Estate of Mr. Alfred Cousens, Hire Carter, to SELL by AUCTION, without reserve, on Wednesday, August 5th, 1874, commencing at twelve o'clock punctually. Also the HOUSEHOLD GOODS & ALE HOUSE EFFECTS, consisting of mugs, glasses, measures, tables, chairs, and all the bedroom furniture, iron and wood bedsteads, beds, bedding drawers, tables, chairs, carpeting, pictures, clocks, with the usual kitchen articles. On view the morning of Sale, Auction Office, Edinburgh Road, Landport.*

*Hampshire Telegraph 5th August 1874*

#### THE FORESTER'S ARMS

The Forester's Arms, now sadly demolished was a fine example of a beerhouse with a small brewery attached to the rear of the property. In June 1859 the property was advertised as The Forester's Brewery and Inn with a small two-quarter brewery attached, under the proprietor Thomas Tribe. By the time of the census for Havant in 1861 the property was occupied by Edward Windebank, age 41, who is described as an Innkeeper. It is possible by this date that the brewing side of the business had ceased. A later licensee, Alfred Couzens, applied for a spirit licence for the premises in August 1867 at the same time as its neighbour the Perseverance – both applications were refused. In June 1866 it was acquired by George Gale & Co., brewers of Horndean for £400 from the Tribe/Holton family of Havant and remained under Gales until its closure in 1910.

The Foresters Arms public house itself was situated in North Street next door to another mid/late 19th century beerhouse, the Perseverance. From the 1880s until its closure in 1910 the Forester's Arms was under the control

of the Carter family, firstly Josiah Carter and then his wife, Caroline. Oysters were sold in a shop adjoining the pub. Later the premises were used for many years by M. S. Penford & Son, Boot and Shoe Dealer, A. P. Todman, Turf Accountants, as well as by Frank O'Reilly as an electrical shop. These premises have now been demolished and the area used as a car park. In 2000, Milestones, Hampshire Museum Services flagship museum replicated the building at its site in Basingstoke, renaming it the Baverstock Arms.

#### APPLICATION FOR A SPIRIT LICENCE 'THE FORESTERS' ARMS

*Mr. Henry Ford applied for a spirit licence for the "Foresters' Arms," North Street, Havant, kept by Charles Elkins. It was well-frequented and well-adapted house for a spirit license. It had been considerably enlarged during the past few years, and there had been no complaints against it. There was a house between the "Foresters; Arms" and the Railway Station, but it was of a different character – being more adapted for commercial men – to the one for which he now made the application. – Elkins said that there was great traffic to and from his house, especially at holiday times, and occasionally he was asked for spirituous liquor. The application was refused.*

*Hampshire Telegraph 27th September 1876*

#### THE BROWN JUG

Sometimes called the Little Brown Jug this public house and off-licence house was situated on the south side of East Street. The building, though much changed, was used for many years by Mennard's furniture store and Filarinski's ski shop. The original beer house, known as the Jug Inn and dating back to the early to the 1800s, is first mentioned in 1839 with Joseph Mills recorded as a beer retailer at the site. The 1842 Tithe Award for Havant records Joseph Mills as the occupier of the site with William Palmer as the landowner. The beerhouse originally had a malthouse attached to the rear of the premises and probably brewed its own ale here. In the census of Havant for 1851 Thomas Pottle is recorded as a beer retailer and lodging house keeper at the Jug Inn. Prior to this Pottle was a shoemaker in East Street.

The Brown Jug was acquired by the Clarke family of Havant Brewers sometime around 1869 and given a makeover by Clarke in October 1898 at a

cost of £121 10s..<sup>16</sup> In 1903 it was acquired by George Gale & Co. from the sale of Samuel Clarke's brewing interests, and much altered and enlarged in 1910 by the Gale's Brewery. In the sale of June 1903 the beerhouse is described as:

The Prominently Situated FREEHOLD LICENSED BEER-HOUSE (Pre 1869)  
known as: "The Brown Jug," East Street, Havant,

*Arranged with Tap Room, Parlour, Three Bedrooms, Kitchen, Wash-house, Beer Cellar, Small Tiled Yard forming Sideway Entrance to the LONG GARDEN IN REAR With Backway Entrance, Two W.C's, Public Convenience and Wood House. This Property has a Frontage of 39ft. or thereabouts and is in the occupation of Mrs. Ann Fielding at £12 per annum and the Taxes*

It was also the headquarters for the Buffaloes, the R.A.O.B. and the local cycling clubs as well as the venue for meetings of the local Labour Party until finally closing its doors around 1950. The ground floor of the building is now much altered but the exterior of the upper floor remains unchanged from its days as a public house.

### Origin of the Little Brown Jug

The Little Brown Jug Public House in East Street owed its name to the jug that hung in place of a pub sign on the frontage of the property. The origin of the name can be traced back to the late seventeenth century when salt-glazed stoneware tankards became popular after the English potteries perfected production techniques in this medium. Stoneware was ideally suited for use as a tavern tankard as it is a robust fabric, which, once glazed, proves impervious to almost all liquids. The most recognisable feature of these stoneware jugs was their overall finish, usually in brown or two-tone brown. The owner of a tavern would order a quantity of tankards from a particular pottery and, by request, have his name and the name of his establishment appended to his vessels.

The jug hanging from the front of the Havant public house was clearly a larger stoneware jug for pouring beer or ale as can be seen in photographs of the premises in the early twentieth century. The name the Little Brown Jug was a popular name for beerhouses and taverns; many can still be seen all

over the country.

### THE (NEW) DOLPHIN

Built in about 1960 to replace the old Dolphin Hotel in West Street that had been demolished in 1958, The Dolphin was built by the well known Havant firm of builders, Messrs G. & R. Carrell in Park Road South. Another pub in the Gales chain, The Dolphin went the way of its predecessor and was demolished in 2004. The site is now accommodation managed by the charity Mencap.

### BROCKHAMPTON'S BEERHOUSE

This unnamed beerhouse and licensed off-licence was situated at 21 Brockhampton Lane, on the corner of Clarendon Road. First recorded in 1880 the premises were kept by John Larkham who also traded as a Marine Dealer. The Larkham family were well known in the neighbourhood as traders in scrap metal and dealers of rags and bones as well as Marine Stores. By 1899 Henry Garnett is recorded as a beer retailer in Brockhampton Lane – after his death in 1898 the business was carried on by his wife Mary Ann with beer supplied by George Gale & Co. Later records show that the beerhouse was again under the control of the Larkham and Wiseman families until closure about 1930. By this date the premises were also a general store and off licence, and it carried on in this vein until the 1950s when most of the area was cleared for industrial development.

### THE COBDEN ARMS

Situated along West Street, opposite the old Black Dog public house, the Cobden Arms or The Richard Cobden as the pub has also been called, nestles between a row of late nineteenth cottages and was the last public house to close in Havant. The public house itself is of an earlier date, originally three dwellings and reputedly a boot shop, confectioners, butchers and a former beerhouse almost certainly known as the Echo.

Brewing had been carried on for most of the 19th century at the rear of the premises (see Brewing in Havant). From the mid 19th century until 1873 Havant brewer Henry Aslett (see Havant Petty Sessions) was brewing and dispensing beer here, and he was followed by the Poate family who ran a

wheelwright and brewing business at the site. In 1913 George Poate was still brewing at the rear of the Cobden Arms until the following year when Elizabeth Amey of the Borough Brewery, Petersfield starting supplying the public house.

The name of the public house itself derives from the 19th century radical and politician Richard Cobden, who appears to have had no other connection with Havant. Sometime after 1910 the public house was enlarged, taking over the property to the left of the main building. From around 1903 until the Second World War the Cobden Arms was under the management of John Crockford.

In early 2010 the Cobden Arms closed and is currently up for sale and awaiting its next development in its long history.

#### OBSCENE LANGUAGE BY THE LANDLORD OF THE COBDEN ARMS

*Henry Asleet, an old man, keeper of the Cobden Arms beerhouse, Havant, was summoned under the Local Act, for using obscene language towards Henry Elliott, a shoemaker in West Street. – The complainant said the defendant had been in the habit of abusing him whenever he saw him, ever since September last. On the 14th of the present month he was in his garden when the defendant, who is a neighbour, came out into the rear of his premises and made use of the most filthy language to him. He (the complainant) had given him no provocation. The Rev. Mr. Maine said it was most disgraceful thing to see a man of the defendant's years in such a position. He would be fined 1 guinea and would have to pay 9s. 6d. costs, or go to prison for seven days. – Defendant: You will allow me time to pay it in? – Mr Maine: No not an hour. It is the most disagreeable case, and if you do not pay at once you will must to prison. Let me warn you to be careful in the future or you will lose the licence for your house, as a man of disreputable character.*

*Hampshire Telegraph 23rd September 1871*

#### REFUSING TO QUIT LICENSED PREMISES, "COBDEN ARMS".

*George Legg was summoned for refusal to quit the "Cobden Arms" beerhouse, Havant. – The landlord George Poate proved that on the 20th*

*instant the defendant came to his premises and wanted to fight with another man, and after being requested to leave four times the assistance of the police was obtained. – He was fined 20s., inclusive of costs, and allowed a fortnight to pay. – The defendant alleged that the complainant had attempted to choke him, but was told by the magistrates that the landlord was justified in using a proper amount of force.*

*Hampshire Telegraph 27th April 1878*

## THE STAR

The Star, at the top of North Street, close to Havant Railway Station, was previously known as the Star Commercial Inn, and later the Star Hotel, and was the first port of call for many a weary railway traveller. On the 11th November 1853, John Bridger Clarke and his son Samuel Clarke borrowed £500 from Henry Upton of Alnwick Farm, Pagham, for a mortgage of:

*A certain Copyhold Messuage or Dwelling House called “The Star” together with the Stables, Outbuildings, Close of Pasture thereto adjoining and all other appurtenances situate in the said Parish of Havant as the same are now in the occupation of Walter Lellyett, yearly tenant thereof and held under the manor of Havant.<sup>19</sup>*

In the will of Havant merchant John Bridger Clarke in 1865 (he bequeathed it to his eldest son Samuel) it is described almost identical as:

*A copyhold messuage with stable, outbuildings, close of pasture land, now used as an inn or public house, known by the name of The Star, situate in the North Street of Havant and held under the Manor of Havant.*

It remained under the ownership of Samuel Clarke until its sale to George Gale & Co. in June 1903, although from the early 1850s, and for over fifty years, it was managed by members of the Tier family. After being acquired by Gales, the inn, in 1904, went through a major alteration and renovation at a cost of £2,400. The work was carried out by Portsmouth architect A. E. Cogswell who was responsible for designing and renovating many Portsmouth public houses. The sales particulars from June 1903 record the premises as:



The Most Advantageously and Prominently Situated  
FREEHOLD FULLY-LICENSED SPIRIT TAVERN, THE STAR INN  
North Street, Havant,

IN CLOSE PROXIMITY TO THE HAVANT JOINT RAILWAYS STATION

*Which is arranged with Double Bar, Small Private Bar adjoining, Bar Parlour, Large Market or Club Room and Commercial Room with Good Hotel Entrance, Two Parlours on the First Floor, Four Bedrooms and Four Attics, W.C. and ample Cupboard Accomodation. On the Ground Floor in the rear is Kitchen, Wash-house fitted with Copper, Small Cellar and other Domestic Offices, as also A SMALL LAWN AT SIDE and GOOD KITCHEN GARDEN IN REAR. Conveniently placed are TWO STABLES WITH THIRTEEN STALLS, Open Coach-House, Store, Coal and Wood Houses, Enclosed Yard with W.C. and Public Convenience. Adjoining and in the rear with a Gateway Entrance from North Street is a Valuable FREEHOLD MEADOW now used as THE HAVANT CATTLE AUCTION MART, which possesses an Area of NEARLY TWO ACRES OR THEREABOUTS.*

*This Commanding Block of Property possesses a Frontage to North Street of 143ft. and to Market Lane of 315ft. or thereabouts, and apart from the important element of Value for Trade in connection with the Market and the Licensed Premises, it possesses the further value of DEVELOPMENT FOR BUILDING OPERATIONS to the extent of full 600FT. OF BUILDING FRONTAGESi In addition to the Frontage to North Street.*

*The Premises and Meadow are let to the Misses L.&C. Tier at £70 per annum and the Taxes.*

*The Wood Erection of Auction Mart and Iron Cattle Enclosures belong to the Tenant.*

Confusion surrounds the origin of the inn, certainly there was an older inn, the Old Starr, in West Street, close to the Hammond Brewery, which was sold at the time of John Hammond's death in 1824, when the Hammond Brewery was sold. The Star Inn is first recorded in a directory for Havant for 1793, and later the Havant Parish Records of 1800 record that: 'Thomas Cross, lately discharged from the North Hants Militia, died at the Star Inn'. The

present building probably dates as an inn from around 1850, though it is possible it was converted from an earlier building. It is reputed that the flint stone wall of the east of the building is part of an earlier building and that it could still have older parts inside. The 1842 tithe map for Havant records the site of the Star as a house, garden, barn and shop, under the ownership of James and Daniel King and occupied by John Messum. To the right of the building, and not now part of the inn, is the former stable block to the inn, where at one stage local people would hire coaches to visit attractions such as the gardens of Leigh Park house. The design of the building, with its bricks of grey headers and red dressings, in the South Hampshire style, is typical of the buildings of the period and enhances the appearance of North Street amid the drabness of twentieth century development.

The Inn was an important feature in Havant life – behind the inn a cattle and sheep market was held on alternate Tuesdays in Star Meadow, and many a deal was struck over a drink at the inn. In the 1980s, the Star, like many pubs at the time changed its name to a more modern sounding one – the Trax. Later it reverted back to its original name but has since closed.

#### HAMPSHIRE

*To Farmers, Contractors, Dealers, and Others. Sale of Thirty Powerful Cart Horses, Cart Stallion, and Black Pony.*

*Mr. C.B. Smith is directed by Mr. Walker to SELL by AUCTION, at the Star Inn, Havant, on Tuesday, September 7th, 1858, at 12 o'clock, in consequence of the completion of a contract on the London, Portsmouth Direct Railway, - Thirty powerful CART HORSES, many of which are good young workers.*

*Catalogues may be had seven days prior, at the Red Lion Hotel, Petersfield; Anchor, Chichester; Red Lion, Fareham; at the place of sale; of Mr. Walker, Finchdean; and the Auctioneer, 170 Queen-street, Portsea, or Wickham, Hants.*

*Hampshire Telegraph 28th August 1858*

FORTNIGHTLY STOCK SALE TO FARMERS, BUTCHERS, & OTHERS.

TUESDAY, JANUARY 11TH, 1876.

*MESSRS WYATT & SON beg to announce that they have made*

*arrangements with the representatives of the late Mr. Walter Gatehouse to conduct the above Sales. They will be HELD FORTNIGHTLY as usual and will include:-*

*FAT BEASTS, COWS, & HEIFFERS. COWS with Calves at foot. FAT SHEEP, PIGS HORSES AND DEAD STOCK.*

*The next sale will be held on Tuesday, January 11th, 1876, commencing with Horses at two o'clock precisely, in the "Star" Meadow, Havant.*

*Catalogues and Particulars of entry may be obtained at the "Star Inn", Havant, or of Messrs Wyatt & Son, Auctioneers, Valuers, Estate Agents, etc., East Street, Chichester.*

*Hampshire Telegraph 8th January 1876*

### THE PERSEVERANCE

This attractive looking former public house was situated on the west side of North Street, it was originally two cottages and is in part reputedly of late Georgian date. The original beerhouse was much smaller, being just the right hand side of the property until the adjoining of the cottage to the left. It is first recorded as a beerhouse in Havant in 1867 under the occupation of Alexander Pratt, when in that year and the next two years, it was refused a spirit licence, due to opposition from the landlady of the nearby Star.

It is almost certain that the beerhouse predates this; the 1842 tithe award has the site under the ownership of John Tribe, and in a directory for Havant in 1855, Thomas Tribe, builder of Havant, is also recorded as a beer retailer in North Street. Prior to 1867 North Street had various beer retailers recorded in unknown houses. Certainly by 1870 the premises were owned by James Tier, who also owned the Hearts of Oak in West Street. It is probable that Tier was brewing his own beer until he sold both premises to Brickwoods in 1876.

Much of the original exterior of the public house is still in evidence including a glazed tiled (faience earthenware) front that distinguishes it from public houses of the period. Legend has it that the name came from one of the coaches that stopped for passengers in Havant. Like most public houses in Havant it was kept by one family for many years, notably the Hobbs

family, who were the licensees for over twenty years at the end of the 19th century. For many years the public house belonged to Portsmouth Brewers Brickwood & Co. until that company was sold to Whitbread Ltd in 1971. It closed in 2012 and is now the 'redchilli' Bangladeshi restaurant. Fortunately the old frontage has been retained.

#### FAREHAM PETTY SESSIONS (26.8.1867)

##### *REFUSAL OF LICENCE FOR THE "PERSEVERANCE," HAVANT*

*Mr. Field made an application for a licence for The Perseverance beerhouse, in North Street, Havant, in the occupation of Alexander Pratt. Mr. Cousins opposed the application on behalf of the owner and occupier of the "Star". – Mr. Field referred at some length to the principles, which he thought should influence the magistrates in granting licenses, namely, the suitability of the premises, the character of the applicant, and the convenience of the premises. The applicant had been in the service of several gentlemen of distinction, from whom he produced excellent certificates of character (amongst them being one from Sir Jervoise Clarke Jervoise, one of the county members), and the premises were described as being commodious. A memorial, signed, amongst others, by the Rev. J. W. Astley, Sir W. W. Knighton, Major Briggs and Admiral O'Callaghan was presented in support of the application. – Mr. Cousins urged that the worthy occupier of the "Star" (Miss Jane Tier) experienced no difficulty in complying with the requirements of the neighbourhood, and that another house was necessary. A memorial to this effect was produced, and the application was refused.*

*Hampshire Telegraph 28th August 1867*

##### THE NEW WHITE HART

At the corner of East Street and North Street, stands a fine example of Victorian corner building, as well as being important example of late Victorian public house architecture. Built in 1889 with bricks, slates and terracotta decorated panels, probably made at the Rowlands Castle Brickworks, this elegant building replaced an earlier public house of the same name situated a little to the east of the present building. The new public house stands on the site of what was the Millers Arms and was built when

that beerhouse was demolished and the entrance to North Street widened. The site for the new White Hart was acquired by Messrs Henty & Son, Brewers of Chichester, for £1,050 in a sale on the 25th March 1889 when what was left of the Millers Arms and property adjoining were put up for sale after completion of the road widening.

The original White Hart, and later the new public house, were from 1855 under the control of George Henty & Sons, Chichester, (in 1921 Henty merged with Arundel and Littlehampton Brewers G.S. Constable). When Henty & Constable were bought by Tamplins Brewery in 1955 The White Hart was sold to the Friary (Meux) Brewery of Guildford, then in turn to the Pheonix Brewery, Brighton.

It was later restored to its original name of the White Hart after it was known for a short period during the 1980s as The Malt and Hops. In March 2010 the White Hart closed; looking like it was another casualty of the ever increasing list of public houses that were closing nationally. Instead, it was acquired by former builder Paul Wright who refurbished the tired looking pub and is serving locally produced ales produced by the new micro-brewery named Havant Brewery. Unfortunately this revival was not a success and it closed again in early 2012. Still this was not the yet the end as it re-opened again on 3rd August 2012 after the lease was taken on by Steve Mason and Anita Page but finally closed in august 2014..

#### 'ALLEGED FALSE PRETENCES' THE WHITE HART

*Henry William Brown was charged with obtaining food under false pretences. – Yesterday afternoon, prisoner, with 3 sons, entered the White Hart Inn, Havant, and applied for beds for 2 or 3 nights. He then ordered ale for himself and soda and milk for the boys, which was supplied. He afterwards ordered tea for four, with bread and butter and eggs. Mrs Rice, the landlady, was preparing the meal when the prisoner asked that they might have it upstairs. Certain circumstances then occurred which induced the landlady to communicate with her husband, who asked prisoner to pay for what he had ordered on delivery, but as he had no luggage or money he was ordered to leave. Mr. Rice immediately learnt that he had not paid for the ale, soda and milk. He then brought prisoner and his sons back, and sent for P.S. Barton, to whom prisoner was given in charge, the 3 boys being*

*taken to the Workhouse. – On this evidence a remand for a week was granted.*

*Hampshire Telegraph 9th June 1894*

#### PUBLIC HOUSES,BREWERS, AND MALTSTERS, HAVANT, 1839

John Adams – Black Dog (& Printer), West Street	Sam Astridge – Beer Retailer, South Street
James Buckhurst – Brewer & Beer Retailer, West Street	Digby Dent – Bear Commercial Inn & Posting House, East Street
Samuel Gloyne& Sons – Brewers & Maltsters, West Street	George Hammond – Brewer & Maltster, West Street
William Irish – White Hart, East Street	George Kench – Beer Retailer
William Lipscombe – Beer Retailer	Josh Lush – Brewer & Malster
Henry Martin – George Inn, North Street	Josh Miles – Beer Retailer, East Street
James Wise – Dolphin Commercial Inn & Posting House, West Street	

#### BREWERS

Biden & Co. – West Street	Samuel Clarke – Homewell Brewery
William Gloyne – South Street	George Poate – West Street

#### MALTSTERS

Samuel Clarke – West Street

William Gloyne – West Street

### INNS & BEERHOUSES

Richard Ellis – Dolphin, West Street

George Lant – Black Dog, West Street

Henry Plaisted – Bear Hotel, East Street

Frederick Powell – George & Dragon, North Street

Alexander Slater – Prince of Wales, West Street

Misses Tier – Star, North Street

Mrs Ann Tuckey – Brown Jug, East Street

Mrs Rebecca Stock – Six Bells, North Street

Frank Jordan – Old House At Home, South Street

John Dobson – White Hart, East Street

Emily Hobbs – Perseverance, North Street

Apollas Gilbert – Robin Hood, Homewell Lane

Harry Outen – Speed The Plough, South Street

Thomas Luff – Fountain, West Street

Richard Connell – Anchor, South Street

Ewens Scarterfield – Hearts of Oak, West Street

Josiah Carter – Foresters Arms, North Street

### PUBLIC HOUSES IN HAVANT 1939

John Crockford – Cobden Arms

Albert Tribe – Bear Hotel

Paul Orchard – Wheelwrights

Charles J. Osborne – Old House At Home

E. T. Newton – White Hart

Frank Plume – Dolphin Hotel

Florence Pether – George

Elizabeth Daws – Robin Hood

Alfred Funnell – Speed the Plough

William Curtis – Star

Edith Fain – Six Bells

Harold Skeans – Prince of Wales

Ernest Pannell – Brown Jug

Albert Johnson – Perseverance

Harry Clout – Black Dog

## HAVANT'S REMAINING PUBLIC HOUSES

### THE ROBIN HOOD

Situated in Homewell Lane, close to St Faith's Church, the Robin Hood reputedly opened as a public house around 1832, though brewing and malting had been carried on behind the premises for many years, notably by the Astridge family. Samuel Astridge, who died in 1839, has been variously described as a beer retailer of Homewell, suggesting that the premises were used before 1832 as a beerhouse. The early 19th century exterior of the building has had very little alterations and fits attractively in the terrace of small cottages overlooking the churchyard. Without doubt it was a rebuild of two cottages and rumour has it it was converted into premises we now see in 1832 thanks to church stonemasons who were working on St Faith's church - this can be borne out by the fact that the boundary wall of the Robin Hood's garden has cut in it – GM 1832 (George Moore – Builder & Stonemason).

By the time of tithe award in 1842 David Coldwell, who was also a grocer, tea dealer and provision merchant, and maltster in the town was occupying the site (Sarah Astridge – wife of Samuel was recorded as land owner). Licensees over the years appeared to have stayed for many years. George Little held the licence from the 1850s for over 20 years and the Dawes family ran it from the turn of the century to the Second World War. It was also a popular stopping off place for employees from the nearby parchment works. Along with other pubs in the town it belonged to the Havant brewer Samuel



Clarke until its sale to George Gale & Co. in June 1903. At the sale it was described as:

The Small FREEHOLD (Pre 1869) BEER-HOUSE known as

“The Robin Hood”, Homewell, West Street, Havant,

*In the occupation of Mr. Dawes at £16 per annum and Taxes. Arranged with Tap Room, Parlour, Beer Cellar, Three Bedrooms, Attic, Kitchen and Loftly Wash-house or Store at side, and a Long Garden with Two W.C.'s therein There is a Side Entrance and a Frontage of 38ft. or thereabouts.*

The building is now Grade II listed. Alterations to the interior of the public house after the Second World War include converting part of the publicans living quarters into additional bar area. Now part of the Fuller's Brewery chain, the Robin Hood was the last public house in Havant to sell beer straight from the wooden barrels.

#### THE SIX BELLS

The Six Bells is first recorded in 1764 in the Havant parish records when “*a stranger at ye Six Bells*” is buried at St Faith's churchyard. Nearly 100 years later in a sale of July 1850 it is recorded as:

*All that capital FREEHOLD well frequented ALE HOUSE situate in North-street, near the Railway Station called the “Six Bells,” now in the occupation of Henry George, at the yearly rental of £16 and commanding a frontage of 228ft. with good skittle ground attached.*

Along with the Old House At Home (the Laurel) and the Malt and Hops in East Street the premises were bought at this sale by Havant brewer and merchant, Samuel Clarke. The current building, dating from 1895, probably replaced this older building.

In September 1895 a large part of the Six Bells beerhouse and other property close by were purchased by Havant Urban District Council for the widening of the east side of North Street, and only one sixth of the original site of the Six Bells remained. An article in the *Hampshire Telegraph* of October 5th states that: ‘*the portion of beerhouse not required for the widening of the road had been sold at auction and eventually bought by*

*Emsworth brewer Albert Hipkin*. It went on to say that it would cost £600 for the rebuilding of the house. This 'new' building, with its attractive strip of Rowlands Castle moulded tiles below the first floor windows was designed by A. E. Cogswell, a man responsible for designing many public houses locally.

The Six Bells was later acquired by the Emsworth Brewery of Kinnell and Hartley, who held it as part of their chain of public houses until 1929. From 1929 until 1955 the public house belonged to Chichester brewers, Henty and Constable until it was acquired by Tamplins Brewery (Watney's). It is now owned by the brewers Ushers (Inspired Pubs plc) of Trowbridge Wiltshire.

#### *Lot 1.*

*Particulars and Conditions of Sale of a commandingly Placed Freehold Licensed Beerhouse (pre 1869) known as "The Six Bells" And Important Building Site, Situate in North Street*

*The foregoing Lots are sold in connection with the Scheme of Widening North Street, under the direction of the Urban District Council of Havant, and are subject to a prescribed Building Line as shown on Plan, and the Licensed Premises forming Lot 1. are sold subject to new Building Plans submitted to the Licensing Committee of Magistrates for the County of Southampton; whilst the situation is one of the best in Havant for all Trade Purposes, and presents an opportunity to Brewers, Speculators and others to acquire exceptionally advantageous sites.<sup>17</sup>*

*Hampshire Telegraph* September 27th 1895

#### THE PRINCE OF WALES

Situated along West Street close to Bedhampton Railway Station, the Prince of Wales public house was for many years associated with brewing in Havant. The pub itself was probably built close to around the middle of the 19th century but the present building may have replaced an earlier beerhouse on the site. An advertisement for a sale on the 3rd November 1853 at the Dolphin Inn, Havant records:

*A COPYHOLD DWELLING HOUSE, situate in the West Street, Havant, known by the name of the "Prince of Wales," now in the occupation of Henry*

*Elliott, at a yearly rental of £13.*

Two years earlier, in the census of 1851, James Veal, a widower of 35, and recorded as a beer retailer, is occupying a property in West Street, with Henry Elliott and his family as lodgers.<sup>18</sup> It is unclear if this was the same property but various beer retailers are recorded in unnamed properties in West Street until the new Prince of Wales public house came into being.

Like the White Hart, the Prince of Wales is another fine example of Victorian public house architecture, with its green glazed brickwork. From its opening in about 1867 until closure in 1922 the brewery attached to the pub produced for over fifty years beer for the neighbourhood. Originally the brewery was under the control of the Davey family with Thomas T. Davey probably the first licensee of the new public house. Later the public house, along with brewery, came under the control of Sutton Bros. of Chichester and finally Biden & Co. Cygnet Brewery until the closure of the brewery in 1922. Until its demolition to make way for modern housing the brewery buildings were used by the Home Service Laundry and Initial Industrial Cleaning, both making use of the brewery's old well.

One of the more colourful landlords of the pub was Frederick Bullock, who held the licence from before the First World War until about 1930. Frederick's brother, Billy (Charles) Bullock, was a prominent jockey of the day and won both the Derby and The Oaks.

#### HAVANT PETTY SESSIONS (15.6.1889) THE "LITTLE BARREL" IN THE CORNER

##### THE PRINCE OF WALES, HAVANT

*George Slater was charged with selling adulterated rum. – On the 21st of May P.S. McLaughlin visited the defendant's house the Prince of Wales, Havant and there purchased three quarters of rum for 1s. 3d. from a "little barrel in the corner." He told the defendant that he wanted the liquor for analysis, upon which he remarked that "he would find it pretty good." On one of three samples, however, being forwarded to the public analysis at Southampton it was certified as being 29.08 under proof, or 4.08 below the recognised standard. The defendant alleged that he had made a mistake in*

*reducing the liquor, but he was fined 5s. 6d. and 23s. 4d. costs.*

## THE OLD HOUSE AT HOME

The earliest record of the building later to be known as the Old House At Home is from a document from the early years of the reign of Queen Anne and dated 1703. The document, partly in English and partly in Latin, refers to the payment of a heriot (a fee or money payment) of 5s. 4d. on two cottages in South Street, and as two cottages the property is referred to in most of the succeeding documents on the history of the site.

In 1737, the two cottages, which were copyhold to the Manor of Havant, were willed to the children of John Pepson and remained in their possession for over 40 years. In 1780, the holding was surrendered by John Pepson the younger to Thomas Stapley, breeches maker of Havant, for £200. In 1792, Thomas Stapley willed the cottages to his son, also named Thomas, a gunsmith and silversmith of the town who shortly after sold the property to John Lellyett, also a gunsmith and silversmith of Havant. The property stayed with the Lellyett family until 1850, when the property was auctioned off. At no time before this date do we find any mention of the property being used as a tavern.

In 1850, an auction sale was held at the Dolphin Inn with the sales particulars recording:

*All that Messuage or Dwelling House now used as a Alehouse called The Laurel situate in South Street, also all that Messuage and Cottage, Bakehouse and Garden adjoining thereto now occupied by William Barnes and others at the low rent of £24 a year.*

The Laurel was bought at the sale, along with two other beerhouses in Havant, by the Havant Brewer and Merchant, Samuel Clarke. It was no doubt Clarke who was responsible for the name change to the Old House At Home.

Certainly Havant's most picturesque public house, the Old House At Home is also the town's oldest building. The timber-framed building was probably built in the 16th century and is a fine example of a Tudor house, with overhanging upper floor, small windows and stout oak beams and though now tiled, the roof was almost certainly originally thatched. The interior has

been altered over the years although many wooden beams still support the low ceilings and legend has it they could well have been taken from the wrecked ships of the Spanish Armada, although this is thought unlikely.

Originally three cottages, the premises over the years have been used for various trades - part of the building nearest to the church has at some time been used as a confectioners and newsagents shop, and a further part of the building was once used as a bakery and a boot and shoe workshop as well as having at one time an oyster bar attached to the premises. In fact a bakery oven can still be seen in one of the bars of the public house

The Old House At Home now incorporates an early nineteenth century built cottage, which can clearly be seen to the left of the property, this was incorporated into the pub in the early twentieth century during the tenure of George Gale & Co. It would appear that for the majority of the nineteenth century and into the twentieth, the premises were used as a common lodging or doss house. The census return for 1851 records that the licensee was William Barnes,<sup>20</sup> who was described as a beer retailer, bootmaker and general dealer. In addition there were seventeen lodgers at the premises of various trades including agricultural labourers, mariners, hatters and pedlars. The following census for Havant for 1861 Mary Ann Barnes, the wife of William, is described as a lodging housekeeper at the Old House At Home.

One interesting and unusual fact about the property is the story of Havant's dancing bear. Just before the start of the First World War a German oompah band were staying at the inn but returned to Germany when war was declared. They left behind their dancing bear, which according to reports was shot and buried in South Street. Legend has it that the wear on the post to which he was generally tethered can still be seen, though this has been discredited by the daughter of Harry Cripps, the landlord of the time. Harry never wore shoes always walking about in bare feet,

Also successive licensees used the premises as a boot and shoe workshop. For over thirty years from about 1865 the Jordan family kept the premises, Frank Jordan was described as a beer retailer, boot and shoe maker and a marine store dealer. It was not until after the property was acquired by George Gale & Co. in 1903 that the inn was refurbished and turned into the

popular public house it is now. The sales particulars for the Old House At Home at this time describe the inn as:

The Old-Established LICENSED FREEHOLD (Pre 1869) BEER-HOUSE  
known as "The Old House at Home", South Street, Havant,

*Containing Good Bar, Parlour and Private Parlour, Smoking Room,*

*LARGE CLUB ROOM (28ft. x 19ft. x 12FT.6in.), Nine Bedrooms, Tap Room  
and Kitchen combined, Wash-house with Boiler, Two W.C.'s, Store Room,  
Pantry etc.*

*A Side Gateway Entrance leads to A LARGE GARDEN IN REAR. Galvanized  
Iron Coach-house, Wood built Store etc., Three W.C.'s and Public  
Conveniences.*

*This Property is of Historic Value, the elevation is of Old English Style, whilst  
the Premises throughout have quite recently had a large sum expended on  
them and therefore are in excellent condition and possess a Frontage of  
70ft. or thereabouts, and is in the occupation of Mr. Alfred Frost at £26 per  
annum and the Rates etc.*

#### FAREHAM LICENCING SESSIONS(10.9.1866)

##### THE OLD HOUSE AT HOME

*Mr. Cousins applied for a licence for the "Old House At Home," in West  
Street, Havant. The applicant was a person named Frank Jordan, who had  
kept the house for two years, and he (Mr. Cousins) believed that there was  
no complaint against his character, and that he had never been brought  
before the court for an infringement of his licence. There was no licensed  
house in the street, and it was the opinion of some of the tradesmen in the  
neighbourhood that one would be a public convenience and that the  
applicant could safely be entrusted with the management of a licensed  
house. A memorial (which bore the signature of the Rev. Mr. Hardy, vicar of  
Hayling) was read in favour of the applicant's respectability, and  
certificates of good character were also produced.*

*The Chairman remarked that there were now nine public houses and 13  
beer houses in Havant, and that although it was true that there was no*

*licensed house in this particular street, the magistrates did not consider that another public house would prove of any advantage to Havant, and therefore refused the application.*

*Hampshire Telegraph* 12th September 1866

### THE WHEELWRIGHT'S ARMS

Standing in what is now Emsworth Road, close to East Street, the present Wheelwright's Arms replaced an older thatched beerhouse that stood nearby. The original inn, known as the Blacksmith's Arms, and recorded as such in the census of 1861, changed its name to the Wheelwright's Arms sometime after this, and as the name implies was associated with a wheelwright business that was carried on behind the inn.

For many years the well-known family of Lipscomb were associated with both being wheelwrights and innkeepers and are recorded as beer retailers in a directory for the town in 1839.<sup>21</sup> The family are later recorded on the census for Havant/Warblington for 1851 when James Lipscomb is described as a common brewer, age 44 at the site suggesting he was brewing his own beer for the inn. In the 1870s James and his wife Mary Ann are recorded as keeping the inn along with their son William who is directing the wheel righting business.

In the year of her death in 1891 Mary Ann Lipscomb is still recorded in the census of that year as a beer house-keeper at the property after holding the licence for 55 years. The *Hampshire Telegraph* recorded at the time of her death that:

*Mr. Lipscomb junior son of the deceased landlady of The Wheelwrights Arms, applied for a temporary transfer of the licence and pointed out that his mother had left no will, but he was one of the executors to his father's will. The transfer had to be postponed for information. It was mentioned that Mrs Lipscomb held the licence 55 years.*<sup>22</sup>

The licence stayed within the family and eventually went to her grandson James Moore who was described in the census for 1901 for the Wheelwright's Arms as a publican/bricklayer. James Moore died in 1914 and the licence was taken over by his wife Ellen Mary, the last member of the

family connected to the public house.

The original inn probably disappeared shortly before the present public house was built in 1904. Interestingly, the architect of the new inn was Alfred Edwin Stallard, the Havant architect who designed the White Hart. From its opening on the 14th April 1904<sup>23</sup> until 1955 the public house was initially under the control of G. S. Constable & Sons (later Henty & Constable) who supplied the new inn with its beer until the brewery was sold to the Friary (Meux) Brewery of Guildford (now Phoenix Brewery, Brighton). Towards the end of 2008 the Wheelwright's Arms closed and the future looked bleak for the pub; thankfully in the new-year it reopened and hopefully has a more secure future.

### THE SHIP INN

The last port of call before visitors cross the bridge to Hayling Island, has been an inn from around 1860. The first reference to an inn here is in the census of 1861 when Ambrose Jones, age 38, is recorded here as a beer retailer and coal merchant. Ambrose Jones was born on Hayling Island and his early life appears to have been spent at sea and in 1847 he was living in Havant and describing himself as a Captain in the Merchant Navy. It is unclear if it was Amrose Jones who gave the new inn its name in recognition of his former career. In September 1864 he was awarded a licence to sell spirits at the inn and along with his wife, Eliza, they kept the inn into the new century. In April 1888 Jones blotted his copy book by being fined £1 with £1 5s 8d. costs by Havant magistrates for selling adulterated brandy. Ambose and Eliza's son-in-law carried on the licence at the inn until the time of the end of the Great War.

The building of course is a lot older; at one time it was a malt store and woodhouse and a wooden jib was used for lifting the sacks of grain in and out of both wagons and ships alike. At one time the quayside ran closer to the building than it does today. The old malt wheel used for lifting still sits in its bearings, now occupying pride of place in the upstairs restaurant of the inn. The ceiling is supported by the original wooden beams. The original malthouse and store, along with the Langtone Mill, was acquired by John Bridger Clarke in June 1858 and converted into the public house we know



today. The inn remained with the Clarke family until it was acquired by George Gale & Co. in 1903. Today the inn is owned by Fuller, Smith & Turner plc.

Today the Ship is a popular stopping off for visitors on their way to and from Hayling Island and locals alike. It is also very popular with walkers who can find refreshment here while they pause on their walk along the beautiful Solent Way coastal path.

## THE ROYAL OAK

Standing close to the water's edge at the bottom of Langstone High Street the Royal Oak can trace its licence back to 1727, though the building and the inn itself is reputed to be of an earlier date and certain records refer to it being built in 1555. This can be borne out by the fact that in the parish records for Havant (St Faith's Church) for 16th August 1686 the burial records record: *'A strange man came to ye inne at Langstone (Francis Butcher, innholder) on Saturday night ye 14th of this instant August and died there early ye next morning. His name could not be known'.*

As the name implies, the inn has royal connections, though this is rather tenuous. After his defeat at the Battle of Worcester in 1651 King Charles II to avoid capture hid in an oak tree before his eventual escape. Legend has it his two aides, Lord Wilmot and Colonel Gounter, eventually reached Langstone hoping to find a boat to convey the King to France. Although no boat was found the two aides settled down for a meal of oysters before moving further along the coast – leaving the story of how the Royal Oak got its name. It is almost certain that the names of the inn prior to the Royal Oak were Brookgate and the Red Lion, and this building had links with the catholic faith. Certainly the upper storey to the cottage next to the inn had been converted into a chapel and the inn itself had a priest hole in what is now the bathroom. In 1747 Brookgate was surrendered to Thomas Downer who, father and son, held it for over forty years. In 1789 Thomas Downer, the younger, perhaps on account of failing health, sought a 'lycence to lett the Red Lion at Langstone and the house next adjoining in the occupation of Benjamin Goodman, for seven years.' As one historian has noted: 'it is not surprising to find the inn had this innocuous name; to have called it the Royal Oak would have been highly provocative at a time when the

rebellion of 1745 was still a living memory.

Prior to 1824 when the bridge to Hayling Island was built the Royal Oak held a tidal licence which meant that any visitors arriving by boat could take a drink until safe passage via the Wade Way to Hayling Island was possible. Like most inns that are situated on the waters edge stories of smuggling abound, the Royal Oak is no exception with tales of how the local population would give notice of the arrival of the revenue men, giving the smugglers time to escape through the fields close to the inn. It is reputed that it that the Royal Oak ovens baked biscuits made from flour produced by the adjoining mills for victualling ships of the Royal Navy.

From 1802 through to 1844 the inn was under the control of the Havant brewing family of Hammond, until George Hammond was declared bankrupt and the inn then transferred to James Biden, of the Gosport Brewery, who retained the inn into the turn of the next century. Licensees during this period included William Aslett who had connections with brewing in Havant and the father and son of William and John Cox (see John Cox – Man of Many Talents). Throughout the twentieth century the inn carried on as before, serving the local population of fishermen and agricultural labourers and visitors alike. It is now part of the Greene King chain of public houses after many years of being under the ownership of Whitbreads plc.

### HAVANT'S MOST HAUNTED INN

Reputed to be one of the most haunted inns in Hampshire, the Royal Oak can boast amongst its various unexplained noises and ghostly sightings, a figure dressed all in white, ghostly footsteps coming up the stairs, and terrified pet dogs that would never stay alone in the bar. Visitors to the public house have told of hearing someone moving around their bedroom at night but also recall of experiencing nothing unpleasant. A former landlady of the inn, Mrs Joan Spring, who lived at the inn for thirty years from 1948, recalled finding her pet cocker spaniel Tweedledee petrified one morning in the bar and *“for the rest of her life the dog never went into the bar unless one of us was with her, and she would not stay there on he own even for a few minutes.”*

Several theories about the hauntings at the Royal Oak have been put forward. One suggests that they have something to do with the priest's hole to which access can be gained through a small sliding panel in the present

bathroom. Perhaps one of the priests died here and his spirit lives on. Or is it possibly connected to the one-legged naked man that has been seen close to the Royal Oak in nearby Mill Lane!

### JOHN COX OF THE ROYAL OAK 'MAN OF MANY TALENTS.'

Of the many licensees of the Royal Oak over the years, John Cox was probably one of the more colourful characters in its long history. Variouslly described at one time or another as a brewer, maltster, innkeeper, grocer, tea dealer, tobacco dealer, schoolmaster and writing clerk, Cox even overcame bankruptcy in his diverse career before his death in 1873. Born in Witney, in Oxfordshire in about 1804, Cox is first mentioned in Havant in a directory of the town for 1839 as a grocer and tea dealer. In 1831 a William Cox is described as Licenced Victualler at the Royal Oak. It is possible that he was the father of John Cox. By the time of the census for Havant in 1841 he is described as a publican at the Royal Oak. Ten years later in the next census for 1851 he is described as a licensed victualler and schoolmaster. It would appear that he kept a schoolroom in South Street and in 1852 kept a beerhouse in West Street which probably doubled as a grocery shop and tea and tobacco dealership. In April 1853 he was declared insolvent at the County Court in Portsmouth. The *Hampshire Telegraph* of the 19th March 1853 records as such:

### IN THE COUNTY COURT OF HAMPSHIRE, AT PORTSMOUTH

*Whereas a Petition of John Cox, formerly of the Royal Oak Inn, Langstone, in the parish of Havant, in the county of Southampton, Licensed Victualler and Dealer in Tobacco, Schoolmaster and Writing Clerk, having at the same time a schoolroom in South Street, in the Town of Havant, in the said County of Southampton, and now of West Street, in the Town of Havant aforesaid, Brewer, Retailer of Beer, Dealer in Tobacco, Green Grocer, and Schoolmaster, an insolvent Debtor, having been filed in the County Court of Hampshire, and an Interim Order for Protection from Process having been given to the said John Cox, under the provisions of the Statutes is that case made and provided, the said John Cox is hereby required to appear at the next Court to be holden at the Guildhall, at Portsmouth, aforesaid, on the 20th day of April next, at 11 o'clock in the forenoon precisely for his first*

*examination touching his Debts, Estate, Effects, and to be further dealt with according to the provisions of the said Statutes: and Notice is hereby given that the choice of Assignees is to take place at the time so appointed. All persons indebted to the said John Cox, or who have any of his Effects, are not to pay or deliver the same but to John Howard, Esq. the Clerk of the said County Court, at Portsmouth, the Official Assignee acting in the matter of the said Petition.*

R.MARTELL High Baliff.

After this date John Cox is no longer recorded in Havant, and by 1861 is recorded in the census for that year as a brewer and beer retailer at the Golden Butt public house, Pound Street, in the Millbrook District of Southampton. He died in Southampton in 1873, aged 69, and his wife Elizabeth continued to run the public house until sometime before her death in 1891, aged 83.

#### THE PARCHMENT MAKERS

Havant's newest public house, situated in Park Road North, opened its doors for the first time on the 18th December 1997. The building, the former Income Tax and Social Security office of the town, was converted into a public house by the pub chain J. D. Wetherspoon at a cost of £860,000. The scheme turned the ground floor of the building in to the public house with the upper floor being converted into flats and accommodation. The new public house takes its name from the historic parchment making industry associated with the town, which closed in 1936.

#### LEIGH PARK'S PUBLIC HOUSES

Before the development of the Leigh Estate, firstly under William Garrett and later Sir George Staunton, Leigh was a tything within the parish of Havant and was made up of scattered settlements, with most tracing their history back centuries. Within this large area, stretching from Stockheath to the boundary of what is now Durrants and Rowlands Castle, various inns or beerhouses have been mentioned over the years but now not one survives as a public house. In 1859 two beerhouses are recorded at Stockheath or Leigh Common, but soon after this only one is recorded.

## THE CRICKETERS TAVERN

Formerly known as the Cricketers Arms it closed its doors for the last time in December 2006 after serving the modern Leigh Park estate for many years, The building much changed with the addition of modern extensions still retains the building built in the early 1860s though it is reputed that there was an earlier inn or beerhouse from around 1750. No doubt, through its long history, it served the thirsty players from Havant who played cricket on the common and the many visitors who were passing through on their way to Havant and beyond. Local directories record various innkeepers at Stockheath from 1841 but it is not until the 1860s that we get a clearer picture of the Cricketers Tavern.

In September 1864, the occupier Thomas Tribe applied for a licence for the house but was refused, due to what it appeared William Stone's reluctance of granting a licence due to the forthcoming inclosure of Stockheath. In September 1867 Thomas Tribe put the premises, along with the property adjoining, up for sale by auction. The details at this sale record:

*Lot. 1.- A substantial and newly built FREEHOLD HOUSE, With a good garden and orchard attached, containing on the ground floor two good sized sitting rooms, 20 feet by 15, and 12 feet by 15, kitchen and wash house, and five bedrooms on the upper floor, and very pleasantly situate at STOCKHEATH, with fronting towards the open common (which is reserved from inclosure in perpetuity for public amusements), and is now used as a public house, known by the name of "The Cricketers."*

*Hampshire Telegraph 14th September 1867*

In the 1871 Census the Cricketers' Arms, as it was then called, is in the control of William Pettitt, whose occupation is also that of a carpenter journeyman. Also at Stockheath at this time is Samuel Clark who is recorded as a retired inn keeper. Previous to this Clark was a dairyman at Stockheath for many years and could possibly have also kept a beerhouse at Stockheath. Samuel Clark is recorded on the 1851 Census for Stockheath as a fundholder. Also on the census return is Sophia Buckhurst as a visitor at the same address. Sophia was the daughter of Havant Brewer and Maltster John Buckhurst who died at Stockheath in 1842. On 25th September 1876

the Cricketers Tavern again applied for a spirit licence but was once again refused although it put up a very good case for a licence as the *Hampshire Telegraph* recorded:

*Mr R.W. Ford applied for a spirit licence to be granted to the Cricketers Tavern, Stockheath, occupied Mr. John Edmonds. The house had been a beerhouse for 15 or 16 years, and belonged to Messrs Allan & Son, of Portsmouth. The house consisted of ten rooms – five upstairs and a similar number on the ground floor – two of them being of considerable size, and capable of accommodating 60 or 70 persons. The place was largely frequented in the summer by cricketers, and it was for that class and their friends that the application was principally made. The house in question had cost between £500 and £600, and was almost £25 a year rental.*

*Hampshire Telegraph 27th September 1876*

Long associated with cricket on the common and also day trippers who ventured out to Stockheath the Cricketers Tavern also played its part in the local community as on the 10 September, 1892 when:

*On Saturday the employees of Mr. C. Phillips, of Leigh Park Farm, and Mr. H. Phillips of Middle Park Farm, celebrated Harvest Home in old fashioned style. The afternoon was devoted to cricket on Stockheath Common, the team from Leigh Park Farm proving victorious. In the evening the usual dinner was held at the Cricketers' Tavern, when Mr. Richards placed an old English spread on the table. The chair was taken by Mr. C. Lee, and the evening was devoted to harmony.*

*Hampshire Telegraph September 17th 1892*

In 1914 the Cricketers was acquired from Charles Gillett, of the Buckland Brewery, Portsmouth, by George Gale & Co. and stayed with that brewery until its closure. During its varied history it was even the meeting place during the war years of the local hunt, led by officers from the nearby naval camps and during the formative years of the Leigh Park housing estate it was the headquarters of many local organisations. Unfortunately it closed in December 2006 and was demolished in 2011 after serving the modern Leigh Park estate for many years and thus joined the list of local public houses that have closed in the past few years.

## THE SAILORS HOME

Further along Riders Lane, towards the junction of Stockheath Lane, stood another beerhouse, the Sailors Home.

This inn's history, along with its neighbour the Cricketers, is rather clouded. It is first mentioned as the Sailors Home in 1873, under the ownership of Henry Davy of the Prince of Wales Brewery though it probably predates this by some years. In 1859 a directory for Havant records two beer retailers at Stockheath, Thomas Tribe and George Wills, presumably at both the Cricketers Inn and what became known as the Sailors Home. By 1880 both the Cricketers and the Sailors Home are under the licences of retired Royal Navy pensioners, John Bryant and John Edmunds with Bryant at the Sailors Home. It is probably this naval connection which gave the beerhouse its name.

Certainly by 1873 the property was under the ownership of Henry Davy of the Prince of Wales Brewery and later by Edward Smith and it probable that after the sale of property due to Smith's bankruptcy in 1876 that the ownership became under the tenure of the Leigh Park Estate and ownership of Sir Frederick Fitzwygram.

### THE SAILORS HOME STOCKHEATH, HAVANT

*To be Sold by Auction, by Messrs Lewis and Son, on the Premises, on Monday September 24th, 1877, at two o'clock – The EFFECTS of the above Inn, the property of Mr. Edward Smith, who is leac, comprising nearly new SPRING RAVE, & TWO DUNG CARTS, Harrow, Roller, TWO BOOTHS, 40 & 30 feet long, SHEDS & STABLES (Slated) BUILDING MATERIALS, Eight Cord of Elm Wood, fit for Wheelwrights, TWO ACRES OF TURNIPS Fit to pull, skittle rope, skittles and balls, potatoes, tables, chairs, mugs, glasses, nine dozen cups & saucers, measures, spittoons, guns, copper boilers, spades, prongs, etc., 80 yards of rail fencing, wheelbarrow, corn bin, and numerous effects. May be viewed the morning of sale, and catalogues had on the premises, or at the Auctioneers, Havant.*

*Hampshire Telegraph 8th January 1876*

At the time of its closure, 30th October 1915, the owner was Sir Frederick

Loftus Fitzwgram Bt. and the building was being leased to the Gosport brewers, Biden Sea Horse Brewery. Unfortunately nothing of this inn now remains.

## THE NEW INN

The New Inn at Leigh played a small part in one of the most notorious murders in the areas history, notably the savage killing of William Galley and Daniel Chater by a gang of fourteen notorious smugglers in 1748. The facts behind the grisly killings are now legendary. It begins with a group of Sussex smugglers raiding the Customs House at Poole to rescue a consignment of tea which they had had confiscated by Revenue Officers after smuggling the tea from Guernsey. In their escape, Daniel Chater, a shoemaker from Fordingbridge, recognised one of the gang and was ordered along with William Galley, a Revenue Officer, to ride to Chichester with a letter for Major Battin, a justice of the peace for Sussex with information on one of the smugglers. After reaching Havant, Galley and Chater were told Major Battin was at East Marden and after being given directions set off for there. Going through Leigh towards Rowlands Castle, Chater and Galley stopped off at the New Inn at Leigh where they met two brothers, George and Thomas Austin, who agreed to take them to Rowlands Castle.

After reaching the White Hart at Rowlands Castle, the haunt of various members of the smugglers gang, the unfortunate Galley and Chater were apprehended by the gang members, whipped, beaten and eventually tied to horses and taken away from the inn. The outcome was that both men were cruelly treated and eventually murdered in a most savage way, Galley being buried when not quite dead and Chater thrown down a well and stoned until dead. Seven of the fourteen members of the gang were eventually tried and executed for the murders at Chichester.

The location of the New Inn at Leigh has left historians guessing, three locations are mooted. The first being close to the crossroads at what is now Stockheath and Petersfield Roads; the second close to the settlement near Leigh House; the third being the Robin Hood beerhouse, further along on Durrants Road.

Apart from the Cricketers Tavern the public houses of Leigh Park were all built when the sprawling housing estate was developed in the 1950s. By



1958 the majority of the estate had been built and six public houses served the population. Later, The Warren and West Leigh or Sharps Copse area were also developed for housing and two pubs were built to serve these areas.

#### THE CURLEW

Technically not part of the Leigh Park estate, the Curlew, on Petersfield Road, stands on land that formerly belonged to Havant Farm. This former Gales Brewery owned public house was built in the mid 1950s to serve the nearby housing development.

#### THE GREYHOUND

Closed for business in about 2002, this public house was built when the Park Parade shopping centre was developed in the mid 1950s. It was demolished July 2007. The site is now occupied by a block of flats, Greywell Heights, and offices.

#### THE HERON

Originally called the Rover Inn, this public house is situated on on the corner of Petersfield Road and Stockheath Road close to Battin's Copse. Like the majority of pubs that serve Leigh Park it was built in the 1950s.

#### THE WARREN

Built when the housing estate of the same name was built in the early to mid sixties, this public house had a short life closing about 1999. The building was subsequently demolished in 2003 and the site is now a car park.

#### THE SWALLOW

Situated on the corner of Middle Park Way and Dunsbury Way this pub was built in the 1950s.

#### THE WHEATSHEAF

Located on the corner of Bramdean Drive and Botley Drive, this public house was one of the first pubs to open on the new estate. It closed its doors to its customers in 2004 and has since been demolished.

## THE FOX

The Fox Public House was built when the West Leigh area was developed in the early 1960s. It stood at the corner of Prospect Lane and Baybridge Road and has now been converted into a convenience store.

### DERIVATIONS OF SOME OF HAVANT'S PUBLIC HOUSE NAMES

The Bear (Black Bear) – From the popular sport of Bear Baiting.

The Bell – Mostly derived from the national addiction to Bell ringing.

Brown Jug – Traced back to the 17th century when salt-glazed stoneware tankards became popular.

The George – Reference to one of the Hanoverian Kings of England.

Hearts of Oak – A compliment to the British Naval tradition.

Parchment Makers – From the historical Havant Parchment making Industry.

Perseverance – Derived from the name of a early coach.

Prince of Wales – First adopted as the crest of the Black Prince.

Robin Hood – Mythical hero and outlaw of English ballads.

Royal Oak – A reference to Charles II, who hid in an oak tree after his defeat at the Battle of Worcester in 1651.

The Ship – A general allusion to Britain's maritime heritage.

Six Bells – Either derived from Bell ringing or a maritime connection.

Wheatsheaf – Found in many coats of arms including that of the Brewers Company.

White Hart – The cognizance of Richard II.

The Wheelwrights – It was situated near to a wheelwright business.

Speed the Plough – 'God Speed the Plow' from a 15th c. song meaning 'a wish for success and prosperity.'

The Cricketer's – Alluding to cricket being played on Stockheath Common

The Warren – Formerly part of the Leigh Park Estate farmed for the production of rabbit meat.

Cobden Arms – Named after the early 19th C. radical and politician Richard Cobden

Black Dog – Heraldic and armorial origins.

Courthouse – Formerly the justice court for the town.

Wheelwright's and Miller's Arms – Linked to trade

#### REFERENCES

- <sup>1</sup> H.R.O. 129M90/B21. It is not recorded who signed the petition
- <sup>2</sup> Probably on their way to or from Hayling Island where they witnessed the exercises prior to D-Day from the roof of the Royal Hotel.
- <sup>3</sup> On the 4th December 1815 Elizabeth Grey married at St Faith's Church, Havant, Charles Earwaker.
- <sup>4</sup> Samuel Simpson's wife Emily deceased him, dying at Havant, age 52, 2nd Qtr. 1871. Emily Simpson (1848-81), daughter of Samuel and Emily Simpson of the Black Dog Inn, Havant. Died at Havant 1st Qtr. 1881, age 33
- <sup>5</sup> *Hampshire Telegraph*, 14th September 1878. One of the magistrates residing was Sir Frederick Fitzwygram Bart.. of Leigh Park, a veterinary and horse expert.
- <sup>6</sup> Two other sons had died in infancy; Frank in 1875 and Alfred Simpson in 1879.
- <sup>7</sup> Mary Ann Windsor, the daughter of Thomas Winsor, Retired Greenwich Pensioner. Information supplied by Lesley Walker relative of May Ann Windsor.
- <sup>8</sup> See *Hampshire Telegraph* account of Robbery, May 1888
- <sup>9</sup> See *Hampshire Telegraph* advertisement, 19th July 1890
- <sup>10</sup> A well known family in Havant, the Bannister family were more associated with Surgery and Apothecary in the town for a large part of the nineteenth century and into the twentieth. Joseph Bannister (1730-88)
- <sup>11</sup> Elenor Kelsall died in 1863 and her interest in the property passed to her brothers William & Thomas Kelsall who on 29th September 1865 sold the property to George Stallard.
- <sup>12</sup> Indenture of Sale between William & Thomas Kelsall & David Coldwell to George Stallard, 29th Sept. 1865. (HBC)
- <sup>13</sup> Quarter Sessions Public House Licences 1913-54 H.R.O.
- <sup>14</sup> James Lipscomb, Sarah Astridge, William Blackmore, Joseph Mills, Henry Brown. See The South Street Publicans.

- <sup>15</sup> E. Robins & Son, Brewers of Brighton.
- <sup>16</sup> Messrs. Rogers Bros, Builders, Havant, to Samuel Clarke, 1st Oct. 1898 – *'We will undertake to execute the foregoing in accordance with the specification and plan to your satisfaction for the sum of one hundred and twenty one pounds, ten shillings.'*  
H.R.O.129M90/B14
- <sup>17</sup> H.R.O. 129M90/K4/1. Sales Particulars, 27th September 1895. Lots 2 & 3 were two Business and Building Sites. See Plan of 27th September 1895.
- <sup>18</sup> By 1855 Henry Elliott is recorded as a Shoemaker in West Street. The Tithe Award of 1842 has James Veal occupying a property in West Street close to The Fountain Inn owned by Maria Pitt.
- <sup>19</sup> H.R.O. 129M90/J9 Clarke of Havant Papers.
- <sup>20</sup> William Barnes died at Havant age 40.
- <sup>21</sup> 1839 Directory for Havant records – Lipscomb, Beer Retailer, Havant.
- <sup>22</sup> *Hampshire Telegraph*, 19th Oct. 1891. Havant Licensing Meeting.
- <sup>23</sup> The architect of the new public house was Alfred Edwin Stallard (1861-1953), surveyor and architect of Havant a prolific architect he also designed the White Hart, Havant United Reformed Church and Fairfield School among other buildings in the town. His father, George Stallard, ran a successful building business in Havant and the family were related to the Stallards who owned the parchment business in Homewell.

No. *June 6* HAVANT, 188 *1*  
*M. A. C. NANCE, Cygnet Brewery, Havant.*

CASK,				£	s.	d.
<i>25</i>	X ...	...	...		<i>15</i>	—
	XX	...	...			
	XXX	...	...			
<i>7</i>	<del>XXXX</del>	...	...		<i>12</i>	—
	K ...	...	...			
	AK	...	...			
	PA	...	...			
<i>7</i>	IPA	...	...		<i>12</i>	—
	P ...	...	...			
	S ...	...	...			
	DS	...	...			
	IDS	...	...			
	BUS. GRAINS	...	...			
	LBS. YEAST	...	...			
					<i>119</i>	—

No. Cask  
 Per *Payne*

Invoice from the Cygnet Brewery to the Havant Working Men's Club, 6 June 1881.



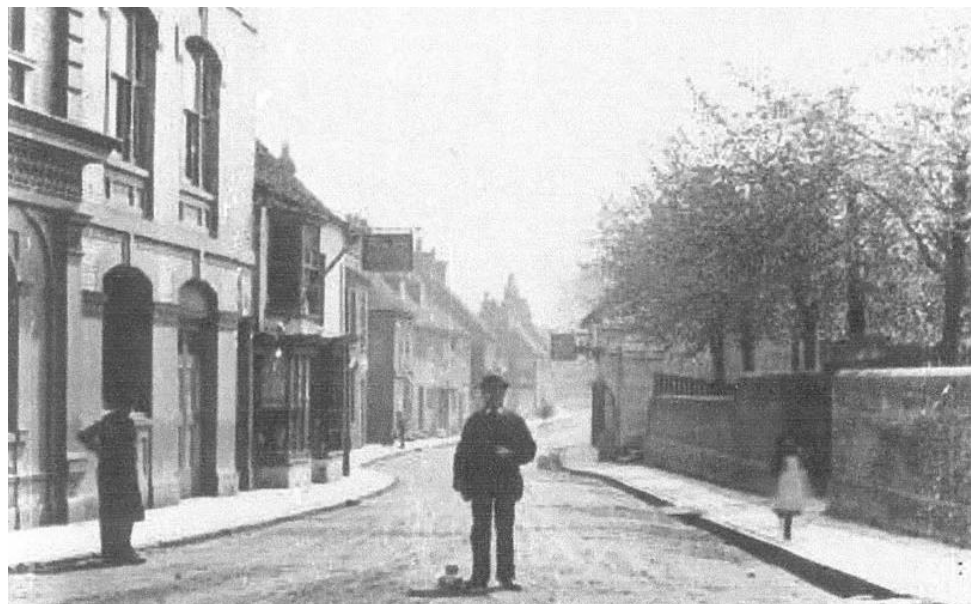
The Prince of Wales, West Street, 2006.



The Prince of Wales, West Street, circa 1900.

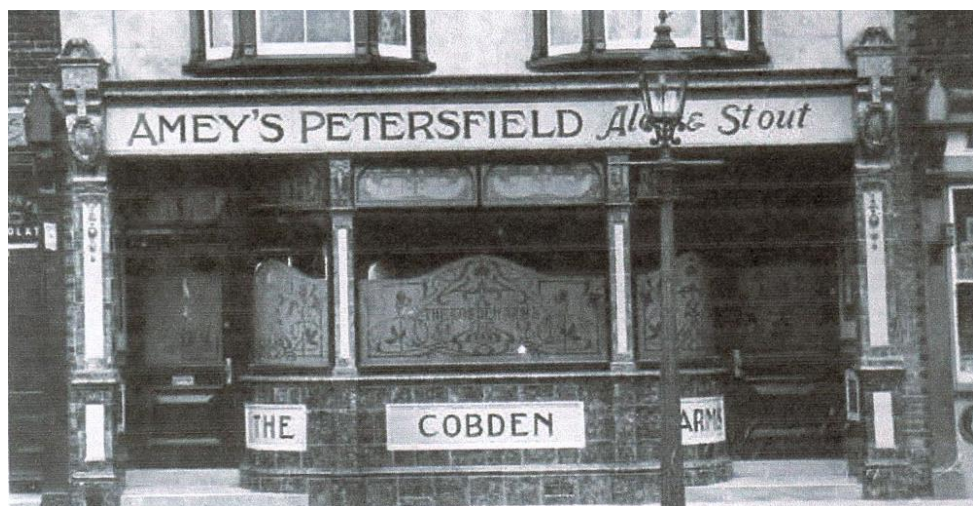


The Robin Hood, Homewell Lane, 2012.



The Blue Anchor, South Street, shortly before demolition, circa 1890.





The Cobden Arms, West Street, 1910



The Cobden Arms, West Street, 2007.



The George Inn, North Street, circa 1885. Note duckboards and flooding.



The Six Bells, North Street, photographed 1914/18.





The Six Bells.2013.



The Black Dog (later the Courthouse) circa 1960s.



The Star, North Street, (on the left) with a Foden steam powered brewer's dray.



The Star, North Street. 1966.



The Foresters Arms, North Street. Circa 1910.



The Foresters Arms as retail units, 1960s, with the extension to the Perseverance on the right.



The Old House at Home, South Street circa 1910.



The Old House At Home, South Street, one of the earliest photographs taken.



The Dolphinn Hotel, West Street, 1958. *(Michael Edwards).*



The (New) Dolphinn, Park Road South, 1970s.





Hearts of Oak and the Fountain, West Street, circa 1910.



The Speed the Plough, South Street, circa 1920.



The old Wheelwright Arms, Emsworth Road, early 1900s. Possibly members of the Moore family standing in front.



The new Wheelwright's Arms, Emsworth Road, 2008



The Millers Arms and the original White Hart, East Street, circa 1885.



Havant crossroads circa 1850.





A meeting of a local cycle club outside the Brown Jug, East Street, sometime after the renovation of the premises in 1910.



A steam driven brewer's dray delivering kegs of beer to the Brown Jug, East Street, before the renovation to its exterior.



The Bear Hotel, early twentieth century.



The Bear Hotel, East Street, during a severe winter, circa 1890.



The White Hart, East Street, circa 1910.



The Swallow, Dunsbury Way,





The Cricketer's, Stockheath, after closure. *(Alan Milton Collection).*



The Greyhound, Park Parade, Leigh Park..



The Wheatsheaf, Botley Drive, Leigh Park after closure.



The Warren, Strouden Court, Leigh Park after closure.

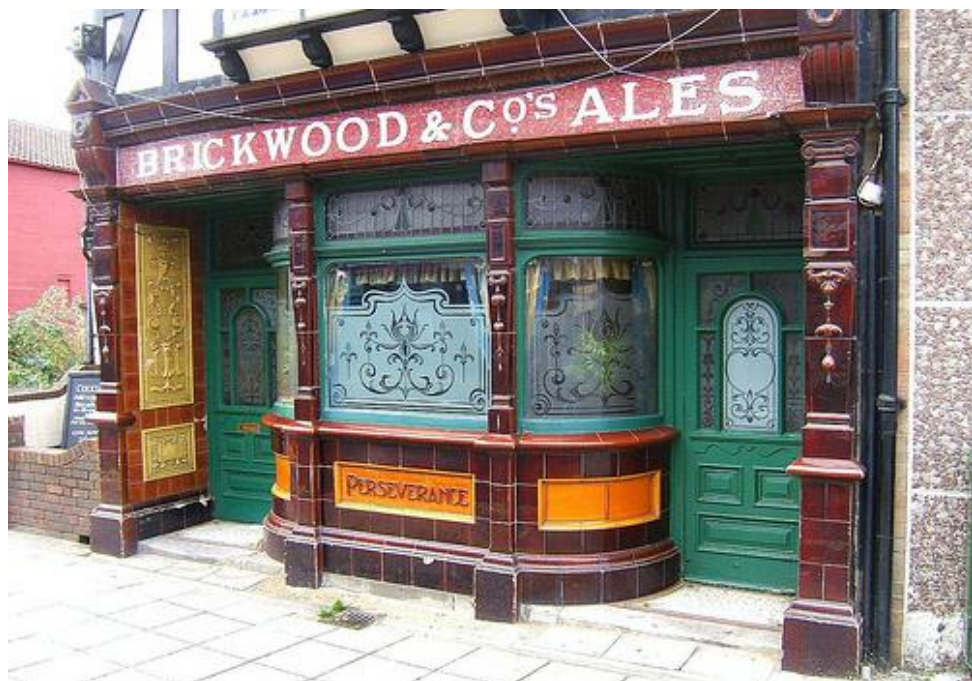




The Curlew, Petersfield Road.



The Fox, West Leigh after closure in 2013.



The Perseverance, North Street, showing the decorated *faience* work to the front of the premises.



The Parchment Makers, 2012.



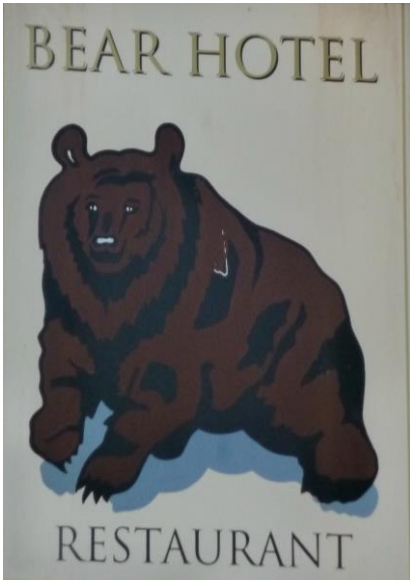
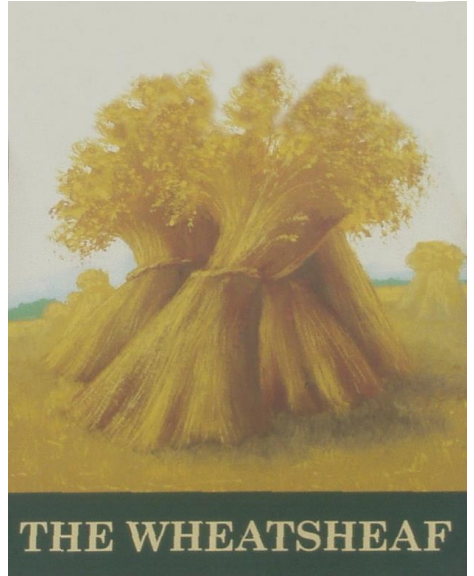
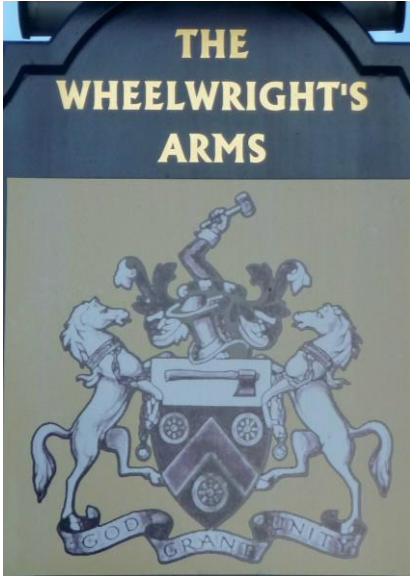


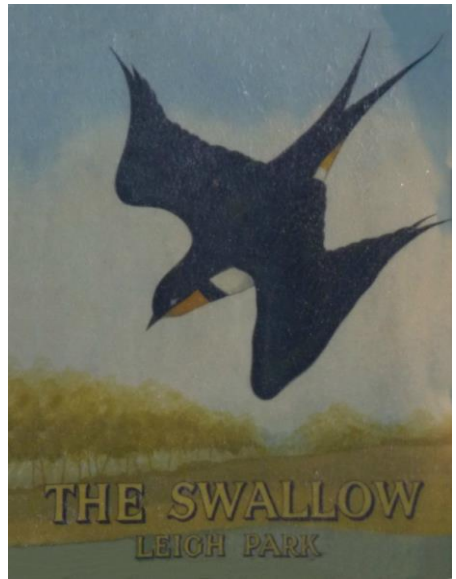
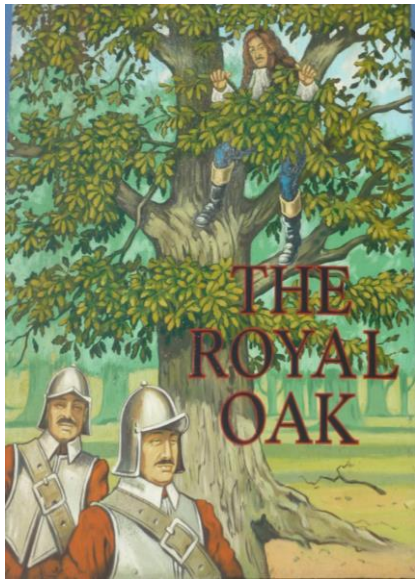
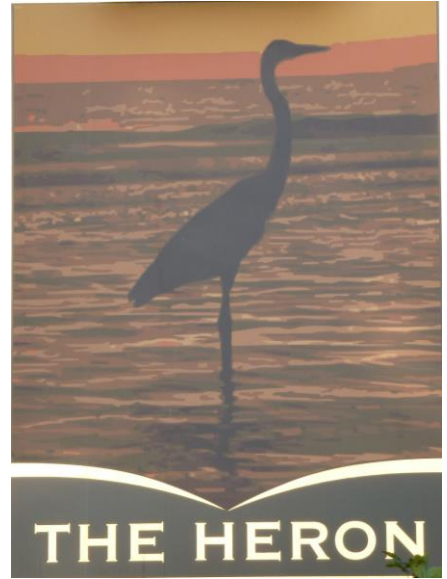
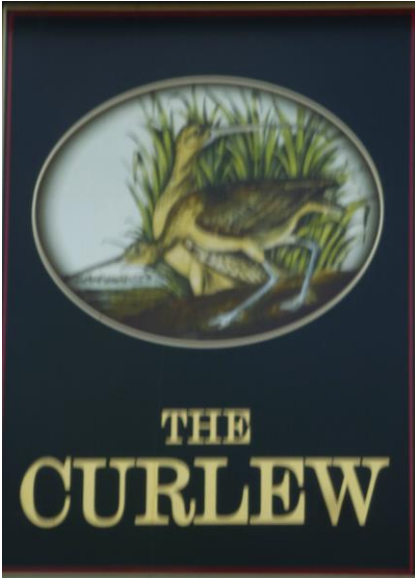
The Royal Oak Inn, Langstone circa 1920s.

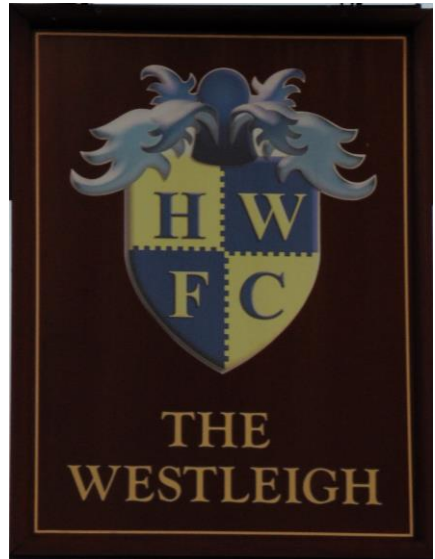


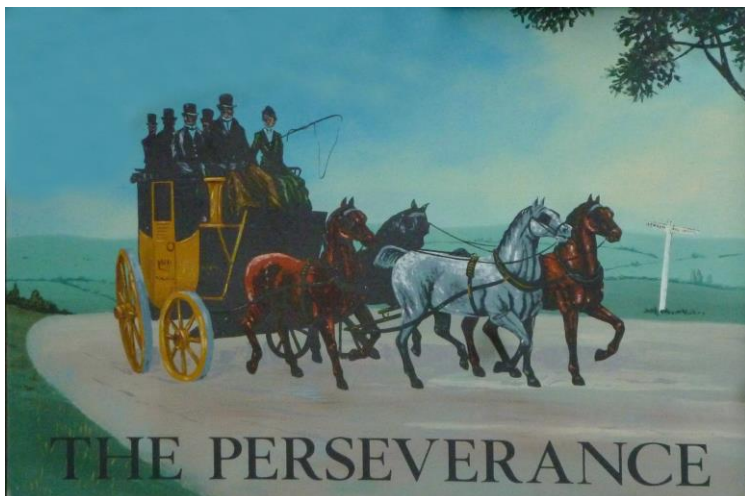
The Ship, Langstone circa 1930s.











## Borough of Havant History Booklet No. 29

Edited by Ralph Cousins.

Typeset by Richard Brown.

This book has been printed by:

**Park Design and Print**



**pdp@pcs.hants.sch.uk 023 9248 9840**

Educating and Inspiring Young People

Park Community Enterprises trading as Park Design and Print